FLORIDA SKIP

A Non-Profit Organization

VOL. 5 — NO. 2 | The All Florida Radio Amateur's Publication | JULY, 1961

THE JOHN LOWE FUND

As Skip goes to press, it is with a great feeling of gratitude, that we can announce that we have received our G-76 GONSET TRANSCEIVER and power supply.

To all our friends who have made this possible, we can only say many, many thanks. We would like to express our deepest appreciation for making our dream proposal of a few months ago a reality of today.

With this issue of SKIP, we are terminating the John Lowe Fund. Any further assistance will be accepted but the John Lowe Fund as such is now terminated. Further contributions will go into the surplus fund.

We solicit and count on suggestions as to how to best use this surplus. The exact figure will not be ascertained until the installation for John is completed.

Some clubs and individuals may not have received acknowledgement of your gifts. Some letters were returned to us. One to a neighboring city wound up in Rome, Ga.! So, we will try again. The listing carried by SKIP will be complete with this issue. Further donations will of course be acknowledged by the Lake Wales Amateur Radio Club.

I owe an apology to the Florodoras and to Mr. A. Spaulding, W4DIR. I had your donations prior to SKIP going to press last month but overlooked them. So — I am sorry. Can't understand it either because by now, I can smell a letter and tell if there is money in it.

It would not be fair to close

(QSY To Back Page)

If you've never taken part in Field Day, you've missed a lot in amateur radio. The gas tank didn't start out up on the ladder, but when the fuel pump on the emergency generator broke down, this was the only way the Miami Springs Radio Club (K4OSQ)) could keep going. Man, was it hot under that tent. See next month SKIP for a full write-up and FD scores.

(Photo by K4FIS)

Dear Mabel,

Dear Mabel:

I suppose you have been wondering why I haven't answered your last letter. No, I'm not mad at you, just Clyde. Of course I am not really mad at him either. We have had our usual ups and downs (I won most of the downs —Hi Hi— guess that means to laugh, tho it sounds silly to me, but I hear Clyde say that when he really isn't laughing!)

He has a new one now, trying to get a Floridora, whatever that is. If its another woman, more power to him. I'll move out tomorrow and leave him with the kids.

And speaking of kids — have we had a time — what with measles and then the mumps. Too bad Clyde had had mumps. Thought he might get them again and maybe close his big fat mouth for a while anyhow. No such luck.

I stuck my foot in it again the other day. He was talking to Her-

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RESEARCH EXPEDITION TO YUCATAN MEXICO

Last month, ye editor received a letter from John T. Conover, W1QLT, Assistant Professor of Botany, University of Rhode Island, requesting help in setting up some traffic skeds.

John explained he and 5 others were going to the Alacran Reef, Campeche Banks, Yucatan, Mexico on a research expedition and they would need communications back home to their loved ones and into Washington, D.C. Their 65 footer had a 2 mc. ship-to-shore station, but it was useless from that distance.

W1QLT and other members of his party were due to sail from Fort Myers on Monday June 19th, but they suffered two delays. One due to a late arrival and the other, sickness of a crew member.

The plan John set up was a "Radio Check" while enroute every three hours beginning at 1100 GMT. A couple QNC's were put out on the Florida Phone Traffic Net which brought a flood of requests to help. To name a few: W4DVR, K4LCF, K4VSA, and W4OVO. Others on standby were: W4AKB, W4ARV, W4DKJ, W4SMT, W4KET and W4IYT.

Because of the two delays it was necessary for someone to meet the assigned times on 7050 kc and make the announcement that the Expedition was delayed. It might have caused undue confusion by those "up north" who didn't get the word. W1AW put out a special bulletion on the expedition and many northern amateurs would be guarding the 7050 spot, needless to say. W4OVO, ors on these announcements while

(QSY To Back Page)

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FROM THE EDITOR

Wow, what a Field Day! Same ole troubles' generators broke down, tent leaked, ate too much, bad conditions on the higher frequencies, drank too much, too many green eyed bugs flying around the dial lights, antenna wouldn't load on 80 meters, someone forgot the soldering iron, no place to sleep, hot plate wouldn't get hot enough to make coffee, ants got into the goodies, truck got stuck in sand, someone got a smashed thumb while driving guy stakes, a junior op cut his foot on a broken bottle, a coke tipped over on the log sheets, coax relay got stuck, ran out of gas for generator, junior operators ate all the cup cakes, a few club members couldn't find the Field Day camp, and not enough good c.w. operators! Yes, it was quite a Field Day. Let's do it again!

By this time, all the blisters have healed, the tent has dried out, all the equipment is working again and those sore muscles feel normal.

As you know (or should) by this time FLORIDA SKIP has a roving FD trophy. The Florida club with the highest FD score holds claim to it for each year. The club to win it three out of five times keeps it permanently. Thus far the inspection plate reads as follows:

1958 — Dade Radio Club, W4NVU
1959 — Orlando Radio Club, W4PLB
1960 — Orlando Radio Club, W4PLB
Who will it be in 1961?

SKIP requests that all clubs mail their final scores with a rundown of equipment, location and operators to Box 501, Miami Springs, as soon as possible. We will have a full report for you next month. Remember the winners score must agree with the one that appears in the QST listings. May the best club win. Oh Yes, send us a picture or two.

LETTER TO EDITOR

Editor, Florida Skip:

It has come to my attention rather painfully that a Mr. Ray Barnes operating under the business name of Raybar Publishers Service has been selling subscriptions and renewal subscriptions to Electronic Technician magazine when he is not authorized to do so. Any attempt to sell this magazine by him is an effort to defraud and the local authorities should be notified. Electronic Technician published a warning to this effect in their May '61 isue and ask that if he is taken into custody that they be wired collect to obtain added evidence for prosecution.

I am telling you this since we were taken in by him as well as 5 or 6 others that we know in this immediate area. There may be other hams in the state who take this publication and may be approached by him in the near future.

Thank You,
George A. Davidson, Jr.,
K4ENW
1750 Wild Acres Rd.
Largo, Fla.

WESTERN FLORIDA NEWS

Frank M. Butler Jr., W4RKH SEC: W4MLE; PAM: W4WEB; RM: K4UBR.

Tallahassee: W4UEU has moved to the Gulf Coast, near Mexico Beach. W4MLE was happy to see close of Legislature session, so he can get back to hamming. A roster of key stations throughout Florida has been made to expedite traffic handling during emergencies.

Madison: W4PBO has a new ham awaiting his ticket.

Perry: W4ZWY is working DX on 15 m. K4NJH is building high power final. W4DEG has acquired surplus scope for monitor. W4KQP is getting used to the Viking Invader.

Carrabelle: W4SJP is new EC for Franklin County. Helping him will be K4TNL in Lanark and W4GWU in Apalachicola.

Fort Walton-Eglin AFB: The EARS now has an SB-10 for the Apache, plus an HW-20 2m transceiver. VHF activity should increase, with a quantity of ARC-1's available through Eglin MARS. Milton: WA4AGL is new EC for Santa Rosa County. He expects to be mobile soon with new Elmac rig.

Gulf Breeze: K4ZMV is building station control and 150w final using 814.

Pensacola: K4JDW hopes to start a radio club at Escambia H.S.; he is looking for equipment. W4SRM is new President of NAS Club. Many local and West Florida hams were at the Mobile Hamfest. W4HKK took home first prize. PARC is moving into their new clubhouse near Municipal Airport.

Andy Clark, W4IYT, Editor
P. O. Box 501 Miami Springs

Frank Orcutt, W4JO
Advertising Manager
2752 S. W. Third St.
Miami

Betty Clark, W4GGQ
Business Manager
Box 501 Miami Springs

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FLORIDA SKIP CORRESPONDENTS

Feature, W4TAS, Hank McMurria, 3200 Avenue "A" West, Bradenton.

R. A. C. E. S., W4UHY, Art Melvin, 1023 Brandywine St., Jacksonville.

DX, W4LVV, Chuck Bolvin, 2210 SW 27th Lane, Miami 32.

Net, (FPTN) K4LCF, Herb Zeigler, Box 12, New Smyrna Beach.

Net, Flamingo, W4DWN, Walt Dixon, 820 NE 123rd St., Miami 61.

NOVICE FORUM, W4 UHF, H. Roy Scott, 8643 Twin Lake Blvd., Tampa 4.

VHF in Florida, Allen A. Engleman, W4RWU 2442 Pine Estates Road So., Jacksonville 8, Fla.

Net, (FMTN) W4GJI, Tip Curran, Box 48, Palm Beach.

Net, FAST and Sidebanders of Florida, Bert Witham W4CNZ Quarters R-6, USN Station, Key West.
Net, Dade DEN-6, Walter H. Stock W4IIS, 7400 NE 6th Ct. Apt. 6, Miami 38.

Net, Hillsborough AREC 6 Net, W4-NQX, Paul R. Young, 839 S. Blvd., Tampa 6.

Net, FLORIDORA, K4RXD, Anne Pitcher, RFD 2, Stuart.

Mabel, P. O. Box 501, Miami Springs 66.

Club, W4BKC, Harold Shea, 7 W. Columbia St., Orlando.

6 meter SSB, W4WAQ, Pat Ferro, 1364 N.W. 23rd Ct., Miami 35.

Club, W4BAV, Catherine Seeds, 829 — 21st Ave. No., St. Petersburg.

Club, K4GPJ, Red Clotfelter, 640 E. 60th St. Hialeah.

Club, Fort Myers, Ken Stewart, W4-SMK, Box 463, Ft. Myers.

Club, Broward, K4PPX, Fran Adams, 1000 SW 31st St., Ft. Lauderdale.

Club, W4IET, Bob Street, 116 Iroquois Dr., Miami Springs 66.

Club, W4MVY, Jerry DiGirolamo, 216 Doris Dr., Lakeland.

Club, Victor A. Blackmer, Jr., P. O. Box 214, Ft. Pierce

Club, DADE, K4GSD, Nelson E. Southard, 12015 NE 10th Ave., Miami 38.

Hint & Kinks, K4UGC, R. V. Frederick, 460 NW 108th Terr., Miami 50.

SCM — WEST FLORIDA. FRANK M. BUTLER JR., W4RKH, 494 Elliott Rd., Ft. Walton Beach, Fla.

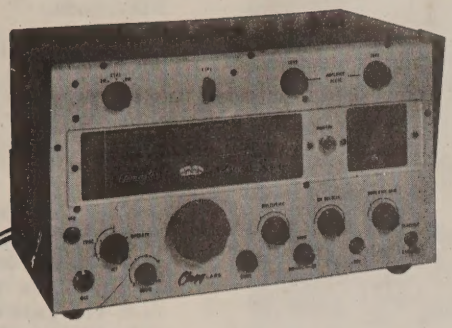
SCM — Eastern SCM, A. L. Hamel, K4SJH, 1300 NE 42nd Ave., Pompano Beach.

SEC — Eastern SEC, Andy Clark, W4IYT, 41 Lenape Dr., Miami Springs 66.

SEC — Western SEC, George Thruston W4MLE, 3407 Prock Dr. Tallahassee.

FLORIDA S K I P NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Fran Foley W4BIL, 14698 — 63rd Way, No. Clearwater. Herb Hamilton, K4KDN, 1524 So. Lake Howard Dr., Winter Haven.

"TUNE UP" ON THE NEW CLEGG ZEUS



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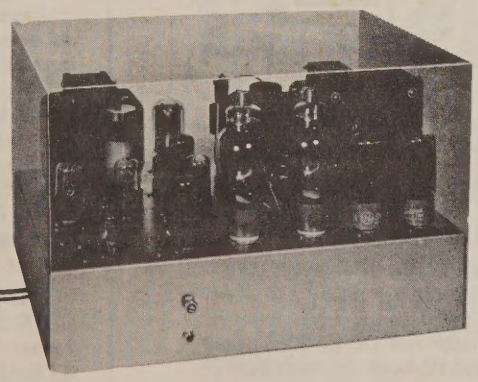

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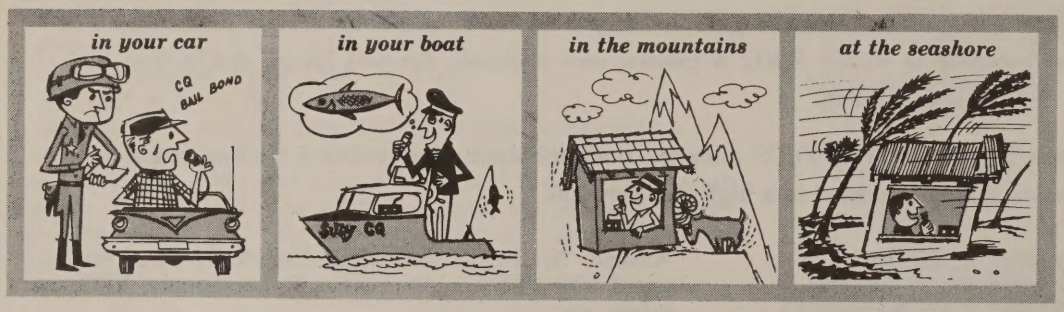

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ST. PETERSBURG AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

SPARC has been busy, as reported in previous issues of Skip, with their Code Class, their very successful Hamfest. W4GAC, the Club Station, was heard on all FD bands.

Boys and gals be on your good behavior as we now have another 00 (Official Observer) in our midst. K4PXY-Pat received his official appointment sometime ago.

When you see a gal wearing a pretty little sterling silver Floridora pin, you know she is one of the members of the Floridora YLs. The gals are very proud of their little emblem and offer a vote of thanks to W4WPF-Marvin, who did such a wonderful job on their order for these pins and charms.

6-Meters has really been open for the past few weeks. W4BAV-Cathy has been having a "ball" along with many others. She is the proud possessor of a QSL card from Mexico, confirming her QSO with XE10E-Tad. Another real thrill came when she was mobiling with W1MRG-4 down in Venice, Florida and made contact with W4OLE-Herb in Tennessee from a Heathkit 6er, only 5 watts.

We are glad to report that K4-HQA-Art is coming along very well. He and his XYL-Chubby have moved to the new QTH at 4421 - 2nd Ave. No. The gang got together one week end and moved the antenna and then the following weekend put up the antenna and got Art in business, so he can listen and keep up with what is going on.

Anyone hearing K3LFZ-Esther on one of those occasional openings on 10-meters, give her a shout. Esther advises that she heard St. Petersburg coming thru and called CQ St. Pete but was unable to raise anyone. Esther's mother, Mrs. Bertha Smith lives in St. Pete and would appreciate hearing from anyone contacting Esther.

W4BIL-Fran and OM-W4-WME-Bill entertained the Floridoras, OMs and friends at their QTH the Saturday night prior to the SPARC Hamfest. A fine time was had by all and many thanks to the Foleys for a nice party.

W4WPD-Shirley and W4UFR-Earl are glad to have son, Russell home from University of Gainesville. Russell is doing fine with his studies and has one more year. Good luck Russell.

STRICTLY VHF

If all of you VHF ladies and gentlemen will bear with me and read along for just a little bit you will win my undying gratitude. Not only that but I might even send you a special QSL just as soon as I can finish these 6 and 2 meter rigs. I listen to all I can hear a great deal of the time while punching out SCM paper work in the shack.

I am very much disappointed in the poor showing made by VHFers regarding Official Experimental Station appointments. Perhaps the title brings up visions of voluminous reports, hours and hours of operation, bills of large denomination passing over the radio supply house counters, etc. Honest fellers and gals it's all propaganda if that is what you believe.

Let's see what OES means actually in terms of what you do every day anyway. Once a month you report any problems you may have, propagation conditions you have observed (how about that DX), some pet project you have had some success with. Of course you can report anything else about VHF activity that you want to talk about. You will receive bulletins from ARRL Headquarters with some good dope therein plus requests from them on occasion to participate in observing unusual conditions etc. This comprises the reports.

The only other requirement is that you use equipment and operate in such a manner that you would be considered sharp by any good VHF operator. Can there be a finer goal.

This appointment is intended to promote good VHF operation and provides a means whereby MANY VHFers know what you are doing—not just those with whom you are talking at the time.

You must be an ARRL member to qualify. Drop me a card or radiogram request for the dope or look in your "How to operate an amateur radio station" booklet.

Thanks 73, Ham K4SJH SCM

BIG STUFF

A man in a big limousine had tried vainly for half an hour to pull away from a small foreign car that was doggedly trailing him. As he hit 90, the small car drew alongside.

"I say," yelled the driver, "do you know anything about this make car? I can't get it out of the low gear."

SCMs CORNER

Before getting into the meat of this months column I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you who may have heeded my requests for increase in activity where needed and for the large number of activity reports received. There has been an increase in the number of reporting stations of over 30%. There are still many traffickers who do not yet report and these I ask — try it once and see how little trouble it is. You can feel that you have a part in making Eastern Florida stand out as a real active section. My thanks also to the OOs, OBS, OES, also for their increased efforts.

This month I would like to present something that is too often passed over and forgotten. Perhaps being reprinted here will again bring it to mind and, I sincerely hope — will cause much thought and reappraisal.

THE AMATEURS CODE

THE AMATEUR IS GENTLEMANLY. He never knowlingly uses the air for his own amusement in such a way as to lessen the pleasures of others. He abides by the pledges given by the ARRL in his behalf to the public and the government.

THE AMATEUR IS LOYAL. He owes his amateur radio to the American Radio Relay League, and he offers it his unswerving loyalty.

THE AMATEUR IS PROGRESSIVE. He keeps his station abreast of science. It is built well and efficiently. His operating practice is clean and regular.

THE AMATEUR IS FRIENDLY. Slow and patient sending when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance and cooperation for the broadcast listener (and TV); These are marks of the amateur spirit.

THE AMATEUR IS BALANCED. Radio is his hobby. He never allows it to interfere with any of the duties he owes to his home, his job, his school, or his community.

THE AMATEUR IS PATRIOTIC. His knowledge and his station are always ready for the service of his country and his community.

Even though this was written many many years ago it seems to me that it still fits. How about reading it over carefully once again. Betcha every one of us could find at least one thing that we are slipping on. Let's all try to do something about it and by so doing become better hams — and citizens.

Do You Support ARRL By Membership and Active Participation In Its Programs? Are You An AREC Member and Are You Ready For Hurricane ? ? ?

Thanks and 73—Ham K4SJH

REPORT ON A MARRAGE

The following is a note sent in by Jim Lawson, K4BOO of Ocala.

"I saw Roy (Oliver LeRoy, K4EJW, EC Marion County) and his new bride riding down Silver Springs Blvd. going to their reception. I had the rig turned on. I got a bunch of fellows on the air and described their Red VG, etc . . . and after I got to the Country Club I got both Roy and his new XYL (Margarita) to say a few words to the boys. Sooo, the new XYL is initiated in Ham Radio before the newness wore off. (Oh, the poor little thing . . . Mabel)

"I don't remember who all were in the round table, but K4-BHL was there and K4MAU (Trey) and a couple more. K4-EJW is the president of the Radio Club here."

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ST. PETE HAMFEST

An estimated three hundred hams and their families turned out to enjoy the annual St. Petersburg Amateur Radio Club's Hamfest and picnic. A wonderful job of co-operation between the club and Mr. Weatherman produced one of the best old-fashioned hamfests seen in the southeast in many years.

The 'fest was devoid of any commercialism. It was held in beautiful Phillippe Park near Safety Harbor in an area that provided just the right combination of shade, breeze and the smell of salt water to blend with beautiful blue skies and a temperature of 85 degrees.

Most of the day's activities consisted of good old-fashioned and very enjoyable QSO's and heavy activity around the swap table which was loaded with all the goodies known to hams.

To further the informality of the 'fest, the guest speakers did what is a hard task for us hams —held their remarks to just about two minutes each. Those we wish to thank both for the pleasure of their company and the brevity of their remarks are: SPARC President Joe Zuchelli, W4JE; QSL Bureau Manager Tom Moss, W4HYW; SCM Albert "Ham" Hamel, K4SJH and TPTN Net Manager Wm. O. Dunham, W4TRS.

The kiddies were kept busy and happy from the time they arrived by comic books, color books, airplanes, ballons, etc., provided by the club to insure the XYL's having some relaxation. The club did this figuring, "Keep the harmonics occupied and let the XYL's enjoy the day, too." This also keeps Sam Ham happy. After the picnic lunch came one of the most beautiful sights of the day—small-fry lined up for about a block receiving candy to appease their sweet-tooth.

In recognition of Mother's Day, a corsage was given to the youngest mother (22) and the oldest mother who admitted to being "past 80". A bottle of cologne was given to the mother with the most children (6) and the mother traveling the furthest distance to be with us (North Jax). Well-known "Little Bo" of South Jax was a close second on this one.

Drawings for the prizes occupied nearly two hours which were broken up by another highlight of the 'fest. Tom Moss who traveled the greatest distance to be with us was given a dollar bill to help defray the cost of the trip back to Atlanta. The newest licensee was given a log-

FROM THE PRESS

HE'S WILD ABOUT THIS ANTOLOGY (Miami News, June 8.)

Trouble on the cable is one thing, but to get an earthy description of Florida's ants, roaches and mosquitoes in the middle of your favorite TV program is something else again.

It's been happening recently in the home of Hialeah Councilman Victor Wilde.

He complained today that the conversations of a ham radio operator comes in on the sound track of his TV set whenever he turns in Channel 4.

The interference is bad enough, he said, but what particularly anoys him is that the ham always broadcasts vivid descriptions of tropical pests. And so far nobody's been able to offer a solution to the problem.

(Editor's note: Doesn't our old friend Victor know that in order to be a ham, you have to be a little bit "buggy" ? ? ?)

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book with three giant pencils to start off his career as a ham. The oldest ham received an ancient copy of QST to help him remember what it was really like in "the good old days."

The drawings were halted briefly to honor one of the club's outstanding members, Earl Hill, W4UFR of Tampa for his selfless devotion to the club and nearly 100% attendance at meetings. A large, unmarked package was given him as a token of the club's esteem. The look on his face when he opened the package for all to see was surpassed only by the photo taken by our photographer. The package contained materials for one of the best known antennas—a large number of beer cans (empty of course) strung on a long wire and a roll of solder. The club took a great deal of pride (and pleasure) in making this award possible.

The 'fest is past for this year except for messages of congratulations still coming in. Nearly all of these messages state the same thing, "Enjoyed your old-fashioned hamfest. Would like more of the same."

For those of you who missed being with us, we are sorry you couldn't make it. Our heartfelt thanks to those of you who did attend and helped to make it a tremendous success. We will be back again next year with another.

Meanwhile, keep your fingers out of the HV, good luck and 73—SPARC—Jim, K4USK.

POWER VS. ANTENNA

It seems that most of the newcomers think that the only way to increase their signal strength is to increase power. There is at least one other way that can be much more economical. This is antenna improvement. 200 watts to a good antenna can many times put out a better signal than a kw. to any hunk of wire. The things to consider in an antenna are mainly: Gain over a dipole, SWR, and heigth. By improving these factors, it is possible to "sound like a kw." when only running 100 - 150 watts.

First the subject of Gain. There are a few non-directional antennas that can achieve gain over a dipole, but these are relatively complicated either in size or design. The main antenna with gain that I will discuss here is the directional or "beam" antenna. These are rather impractical on bands below 14 mc., although 40 meter beams are available. Considering the difference between a 150 watt transmitter to a beam compared with twice the power to a perfectly matched dipole can be surprising. A gain of 3 db is achieved each time the power is doubled. A simple 2 element beam will give a gain of approx. 5 db. A 3 element beam will give a gain of about 8 db. You can easily see by this that changing from a dipole to a 2 element beam would be better than equivalent to tripleing the power. Adding a third element would be equivalent to doubleing the power to the two element beam.

Besides the above mentioned gain in your outgoing power, a beam's gain will be noticed in the receiver, also. Using a directional antenna has another advantage, too. With the beam pointed in one direction you will cause less QRM in the other directions and you will have less QRM from other directions entering the receiver.

A beam has a front-to-back ratio of between 18 and 28 db. This front-to-back ratio is the difference in db. when the beam is pointed directly at the station and when the beam is pointed in exactly the opposite direction.

The cost of a beam, mast, and rotator can many times be much less than the cost of an amplifier for the present rig. Don't forget that a beam works on the output power, and not the input. A linear amplifier, which is about 30 per cent to 35 per cent efficient, would not make the difference in power mentioned above. For example, if you had a rig capable of putting out 100 watts (around 140 watts input) and added a linear amplifier running one kw, your power increase would be about 3. Adding a two element beam to the original 100 watts would give you a bit more signal than the kw. linear would!!

All this, I believe, would prove that the antenna can be a more deciding factor than the power input, in working or not working DX.

The SWR, of course, drops the radiated power of the antenna. It is caused by off-resonance, proximity of the antenna to other objects, and pickup of RF radiated from the antenna by the feedline. To correct offresonance is self-explanatory. The proximity to other objects is also self-explanatory; raise the antenna. And to prevent pickup of RF by the feedline, run the feedline at right angles to the antenna for at least a quarter wave.

The height of the antenna can make a considerable difference when there are objects around the antenna. It is best to get the antenna "in the clear" as much as possible, so that all the power radiated will continue on, and not have any of it be absorbed by surrounding objects. That ends the discussion for this time.

(K9GSV, CARC — 'CARRIES")

WEST PALM BEACH BLITZ

Mike Eggert (Mrs. that is) is now WN4 Big Mike Calling on 2 fone, 40 and 80 c.w. Chief interest: traffic. (Bless you Mike.)

Work on W4HAW-TV continues. Al Garrison K4ZZX has donated a TV chassis for a Monitor. Any others on TV in Florida, would like a sked.

Remember — 10 meter net is now 28,600kc. Join us.

Jay Bronson, W4VTJ, is producing Nu-cistor converters for 2 meters. Present models have 28-30mc IF's. There are comparable to the 417-A units used by several hams in the Palm Beach area. For details phone Jay at JU 5-8945. Jay also reports dependable 2 meter contact with Belle Glade and Clewiston has been established by Broward emergency net. Porticipating hams are scattered from Miami to Jax, including Ft. Lauderdale, Pompano, Lantana, and Lake Worth. The Net meets Tuesdays at 8 p.m. on 144.25 mc with Bill Boles Jr., K4RCV as NCS.

Oh yes, our club house is now air conditioned. Summer meetings should now be comfortable and pleasant to attend. Try us. 73, W4GWF-W4CIL.

FORT PIERCE RADIO CLUB

As usual about this time of year elections roll around, and this year was no exception.

The following were railroaded, r, I mean elected. (Remember ur club is made up of hams from Stuart, Fort Pierce and Vero Beach). To the dutiful office of President, we elected Joe, W4BBE (from Vero yet) and Wayman "Jess", K4NKO. Marion, KN4YXX, our stick pusher and carrier pigeon (secretary) was reelected for another term. (Anybody think up a catchy set of phonetics for KN4YXX. Five American pesoes to the best entry.)

Would like to comment right now on what an excellent job Barry, K4OII, did in bringing the club up to the fine group of people we have. It was a tremendous job to start with eight and have thirty-two show up at one meeting. Congrats are sure in order.

Smitty, K4CXW, resigned as EC for St. Lucie County as of April 21st. Andy, W4IYT asked the club to nominate some one for the job. Well, we did, and it looks like Rollin, K4JZU, if all goes well will be our new EC. By the way, Joan's birthday was a while back. Guess what she got. You guessed it, a brand new HT-37. Guess who uses it the most. You guessed right again, Rollin, her other half, can be found using it most of the time. This is the past news by now, I guess, but two of our XYL's hold positions in the Flors Doras. Joan is net manager and Ann, K4RDX is secretary.

73, John, K4ZNC

PHONEY PHONETICS

Just for kicks lad how about sending in your Phoney Phonetics? Of course we all know better to use the ARRL phonetics on the air, don't we? Send yours to Box 501, iMami Springs 66, Fla.

K4KIC — Kissing Is Contagious
W4TFT — Too Fat to
K4FOP — Flower Of Passion
W4NDA — No Dogs Allowed
K4OER — Ole Eugine Rumble
W4OZC — Ole Zipp Coon
W4RIP — Rest In Piece

DADE EMERGENCY NET

Today, May 21, 1961, the two-meter D.E.N. sponsored a transmitter hunt. The hunt started at 1300 hrs Est with K4EYO as hidden transmitter going on the air. Stations participating were KN-4AGP, KN4AHD, KN4NJL, K4-CBL, K4EYO, K4PFB, W4ZXK K4SOX, W4ZXL with all their friends and relatives.

Credit also goes to W4FWI, Vance Muir, and K4SPN, Whitey Cross who both gave this station much assistance as relay stations for those mobiles who got off on the wrong track.

At about 1430, K4PFB and XYL arrived at the Hidden transmitter. All stations started out from a parking lot at 37 Ave. and S.W. 7th St. The hidden transmitter, K4EYO, was located on the Rickenbacker Causeway, just over the second bridge. The antenna used was a base-loaded 3/4 wave whip atop some thrown-together pipes leaning against a tree. The equipment used was all Gonset Communicators except for K4PFB, who used the new Heath-kit lunch box for 2 meters.

At about 1445 K4VGM arrived with his secret weapon, a pair of half-wave ground planes in phase. W4ZXL and W4ZXK were next in followed by KN4AGP, KN4NJL and family, and K4-SOX and K4CBL.

A lot was learned by all and fun galore. Another hunt is now in the making and it is open to all stations who want to have some fun on a Sunday afternoon. See "you-all" at the next hunt and best of 73 to all.

Howard, K4EYO, D.E.N., NCS-2

STATE OF FLORIDA AREC EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

(Attach This To AREC Plan)

The State AREC Emergency Communication Plan will be activated in phases, as follows:

CONDITION 1: STAND BY

All AREC Officials monitor the FEPN No. 1 frequencies and keep informed of situation through broadcast Radio-TV and official sources.

CONDITION 2: EMERGENCY WATCH

ECs for Pensacola, Tallahassee, Jacksonville, Orlando, Tampa and Miami establish watches on all four emergency net frequencies.

ECs advise key operating personnel of situation and arrange for relief operators, activation of special stations and other advance preparations.

ECs advise key agencies which they serve (such as Red Cross, Civil Defense, state and local governments) of AREC availability.

CONDITION 3: LIMITED EMERGENCY

Key Cities maintain 24-hour guard on all emergency net frequencies.

Phone Net No. 1 becomes directed, if it isn't already.

Other emergency nets go under direct supervision of their respective Net Managers. Their decisions will govern hours of net operation and whether or not to have the net directed.

All Key Cities maintain watch, regardless of the status of net activity.

All directed nets will strictly observe rules of procedure in the AREC Communication Plan, under sections on Net Procedure, Traffic and Emergency Frequencies.

Emergency Power is on premises and in working condition with 48 hours fuel on hand.

CONDITION 4: FULL EMERGENCY

All emergency nets are directed and running 24 hours per day. FCC will not be asked to clear any frequency unless Condition 4 prevails. Declaration of Condition 4 will not automatically request FCC to clear a channel.

Only an SEC or SCM shall request a clear channel from FCC. The SEC (Section Emergency Coordinator) may cancel Condition 4 and return to Condition 3 at any time.

CONDITION 5: AFTERMATH

Emergency crisis has passed.

Emergency Nets begin to restrict operations at discretion of their Net managers.

Condition 5 ends when all nets are QRT.

IN TROPICAL STORM SITUATIONS

State Plan is automatic.

Condition 1 goes into effect automatically whenever it appears from news reports that there is some threat to Florida, or when ordered by an SEC.

Condition 2 goes into effect automatically whenever any part of the state is included in Weather Bureau Storm Watch notices or when ordered by an SEC.

Condition 3 goes into effect automatically when any part of the state is included within Storm Warning notice by the Weather Bureau.

Condition 4 never goes into effect automatically. It goes into effect only when ordered by either SEC. Condition 4 may be cancelled and returned to Condition 3 at any time by the SEC. Condition 5 is never automatic. It goes into effect only when ordered by either SEC.

(Courtesy — Florida Skip)

TIP'S TIPS

W4GJI

APOLOGIA: Members of the FMTN — I asked the editor to be releived of the FMTN column because I did not feel that I was doing a fine group justice. One cannot write about the unknown forever and, besides, you guys put up with me long enough and I thank you for your courtesy. BCNU!

In the June issue TAS remarked on DeSoto's book and stated that Amateurs got into trouble with the government around 1909. This brought to mind my pet aversion of the present day — the term 'HAM'. Most of the time the voracious user of the term is a 'LID' and what is far worse it is even a term the so-called CBer utters among the ignorant. I can remember in the '20s when the green-eyed boys of Yale used to call those of us who studied wireless telegraph as amateurs at Cambridge "Harvard's Amazing Marconis" because we called ourselves 'Hams'. Well, they weren't so far wrong in a way. Back in 1909 three goons by the names of Hyman, Almy and Murray operated a wireless station at the Harvard Radio Club. For a while they signed as HYALMU but got into confusion with a Mexican freighter with the name of HYALMO so they cut their call to HAM. If you will check the congressional record for 1911 you will find that a Senator David I. Walsh was on a committee doodling with a controversial bill dealing with a very important matter of wireless regulation. Hyman chose this bill as his thesis at Harvard and Walsh was so impressed that he sent for Hyman to be a witness before the committee who were all set to kill amateur wireless by order of the commercial lobby. Hyman put on an impassioned plea for his little station HAM and all the other little hams with the result that the bill came out of committee to the floor of the Senate where members rose in behalf of HAM and all the little hams and the result was that the Alexander Bill went through without killing the Amateurs to death. Thus it was that Hi Maxim got the ARRL started and then came Fred Schnell, the Bradenton golfer — Lord love him. So be a Ham — not a LID!

It is over 20 years since I was an EC but even in those days, with the AARS in conjunction, the AREC was fully able to handle communications for a natural disaster for the municipalities and the Red Cross in such a manner as was commensurate with the times and equipment. Of course we did have CW then. The injection into the communications field of CD has been confusing to a great extent for the ever changing politicos know nothing of the proper disaster technique which the Red Cross and others in that field have been trained to specifically. Insofar as a National Disaster is concerned perhaps the book is written and RACES, such as it is, will be the control. Obviously, however, it has not got off the ground in this area yet and will not until a full time Director gets out in the field and tells the various nets the stable facts of function under hurricane conditions as a starter. In the meantime the ARECs can scramble in accordance with the SEC's plans as promulagated and do the job if the occasion should arise in vulnerable months just ahead, using frequencies not presently accorded in the so-called RACES plan. Remember — easy does it at all times.

However, the desire to function in 6 meters without separate and costly gear is often discussed and the HA 6 seemed to be an answer except for the price. P & H have a Model 6-150 coming out now that converts any 20 meter AM, SSB or CW exciter or xmtr to 6. A resistive PI-Pad permits operation with any 10-100 watt SSB exciter and a switchable half-power Pad is provided for AM. The 5894 final develops 150 PEP with an AM signal linear accordingly on a 50-70 ohm input with built in power! Amateur net will be $239.95. Those guys build good stuff.

May your tubes run cool ! ! !

HINT AND KINK

Here is a quick and easy, low cost, quarter wave antenna for 50mc. made out of an ordinary metal coat hangar. Straighten out, (or any stiff wire about number 10.) Discard about two inches of the hangar, then add a variable inductance, variable capacitance slide tuner, made of 300 ohm TV transmissions line, oval holow type. Insert the iron rod from the hangar approx twenty five inches into the hollow line. Fifteen and three quarter inches exposed.

The TV line is thirty seven and a half inches long with two inches for a coupling loop. The total overall length is 55.25 inches, but is adjustable. There is no physical contact between the iron and copper so the outer end of the TV line can be sealed. While adjusting, watch out for RF burns, it suddenly becomes HOT.

73 Fred, K4UGC.

ORLANDO RAMBLINGS

Hal, W4BKC

The Field Day site was chosen at a meeting of the Committee, at the home of Lou, W4NKD. Tom, W4BVG offered the use of the school and grounds where he is boss man, namely the Rock Lake Elementary School, on Tampa Ave. and after Tom described all the advantages, it sounds like an ideal spot. Jim, K4LXX Chairman, and Wes, K4-KRG Co-Chairman will look over the antenna locations, Lou, W4-NKD will handle the SSB positions, Frank, K4RAD will be in charge of the CW positions, and Case, W4NGR will coordinate the other positions and modes of operation, (Moon bounce, Satellite repeaters, Ionized clouds, etc;) heard some rumors about a captive balloon too, it would be legal if it didn't go more than 75 feet up, wouldn't it?

Jesse, W4CLJ has secured the loan of a 10 KW generator which will be supplied with gas thru the courtesy of the Orlando Armature Works, where Jesse has been employed for many years. Many thanks to them from all the members of the Orlando Amateur Radio Club, Inc.

In case some of the gang missed the notice in the Club paper, "The Listening Post" there will only be ONE C.D. Meeting, the First Friday, during JUNE, JULY and AUGUST. The regularly scheduled weekly meetings will be resumed in SEPTEMBER.

Speaking of vacations, Ev, K4-UIZ and I are on ours, so just so I can goof off for a few extra minutes, that will be it for this month, Hi.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

TO STAFF, FLORIDA SKIP:

I would like to say "Happy Birthday" to Florida Skip upon completion of your four years of operation. I wish you many more years of success, progress and good fortune.

This month as always I have read Skip from cover to cover. I enjoy reading about what you are doing for the amateurs and what the amateurs are doing for Florida.

May the candles on your birthday cake burn brightly. Congratulations Andy, Betty, Frank and Henry.

Charlie Stouth, W3ZPP
Editor "Blurb"
Phil-mont Mobile Radio Club

(Editors note: Bless you Charlie. On behalf of the Skip Staff, our sincere thanks.)

QFN

The All Florida CW Net

	Early	Late
QTC	581	76
QNI	274	115
STNS	43	20

As you all can see from the May report, it was a good month. But as net manager W4ATA says, "Summer condx are coming." This may be so, but the whole gang will stick together, and be looking forward to better pickings.

This month we have quite a few new QNI's. Sorry I don't know where they all are. K4DRO, Tom in Miami; K4FTJ; W4SVK; K4YLX, Ted in Winter Haven; K4YXE; and K4ZMV in Ft. Walton. K4BSS-4, Nick is back in Florida, and pumping a real nice sig in from Jax. K4JDW, John way out in Pensacola is working on a keyer and a high power linear to be used on his new Monday early-late NCS slot. Yours truly just has finished putting the finishings touches on a homebrew W9TO keyer. Many thanks to all those whose junk box I dug into!

Good to see some of the new boys going to 4RN. Namely K4-RAD, and W4WHK. Come on some of you other guys, get in there and help out.

Net manager W4ATA kinda boiling over those 10 missing QNI reports for the month of May. Come on you guys! Those ten sessions could have given us 100 more QTC. Remember to send your QNS the day after you QNG. Let's all help Lee have an easy job.

Until next month.

73, Don, K4FMA

100 PER CENTERS

According to June QST page 81, it appears that the Jacksonville Amateur Radio Society (W4DU), W4UHY, President, is the only Florida Club who is 100 per cent ARRL affiliated.

We wonder how many clubs are 100 per cent SKIP members? Don't forget the special SKIP club rate. Ask about it at your next club meeting, or drop a line to the Skip Editor.

AMATEUR WEEK FAILED

General Counsel Segal informed John Hunton, General Manager of ARRL that the House Judiciary Committee on May 16 tabled the proposal for National Amateur Radio Week, virtually assuring that no subsequent action will follow. Our correspondence on the subject — or, rather lack of it — indicates that very few amateurs acted on the request in April QST to address the Committee urging passage.

UP THE RIVER WITHOUT A . . .

Here's a story about an ingenious Ham, a marathon boat race and allied trails and tribulations.

On Sunday, May 7th, the St. Johns River Outboard Marathon Association held a boat race between Sanford, Florida and Jacksonville, Florida and return to Sanford for a distance of some 275 miles of crooked twisting St. John's riverway. The course is beset by one large inland lake (Lake George) and several smaller ones that can act like the Atlantic on a stormy night.

The day started out with a beautiful misty Sunrise and winds out of the East at 15 mph. Case, W4NGR arose early (0530) and proceeded to load his DX100, Drake 2A, BC312 with power supply, 2 meter rig and a P.A. System into one Rambler station wagon along with antennas, coax, tools, log book, pencils, message blanks, extension cords, etc.

Now the day before was spent in developing an antenna system that would work in a limited space and checking to make sure power was available at the Sanford Band Shell, the site of the start and finish line for the race.

Our hero went calmly and coolly about his business of setting up his station, making the various interconnections between antenna and relay and transmitter and receiver and at ten minutes to starting time threw in the big switch. What happened?!!! Why, nothing, of course. NO POWER! Undaunted our hero survived the situaton and with a few quick checks, like wetting the tips of the fingers and sticking them between the fuse and ground — came to the conclusion that "there was no power" and that "it is 5 minutes before starting time."

Grabbing a pair of dikes and quickly cutting the plug from the end of the extension cord and dragging cord, tools and all, he started looking for the main power source, anything. In the men's rest room high on the wall was an old dilapitated switch box and meter with a few old fuses and wires attached. A quick job with a screw driver, a turn or two, and the two ends of the extension cord were hooked up and power surged into the waiting radio units, and W4NGR portable four was on the air.

Now a frequency of 3985 Kc had been chosen, so it was presumed, but no one associated with the Marathon radio set up seemed to be on it. Three or four calls brought — you guessed it — nothing. A quick survey up and below the frequency found — nothing. But Wait! What's this on 3855 Kc?? "This is W4-QR located at White Hair Bridge. Here come the first of the race boats number 32, 521, 881, 89, — —" "Holy-Cow! I'm rock bound on 3855 and this cotton-picking VFO won't Vee, eff or oh to that frequency. So we just sit and listen.

In to every life a little Sunshine must come and in this case it was Charlie, K4OER of nearby DuBarry. Charlie, bless him, went back home and brought his Knight VFO and this saved the day. After that everything went in apple pie order with the exception of losing the fuse in the DX100 once, being clobbered by QRM a few times and not being able to eat.

Did you ever try eating fried chicken, answer a question by an onlooker and have them call you on the radio at the same time? You lay the chicken down, look for something to wipe your fingers on, look for a pencil, try to turn the page of a wind blown log book and talk with a mouth full all at the same time. Don't do it — it can't be done ! ! !

All in all it was a lot of fun— a chance to be of service and place Ham radio in the limelight.

Newell, W4QR manned his station at white hair bridge overlooking the St. John's west of Deland, Fla. Jack, W4WV was at his home QTH and effected relay to all the other stations. Ed, W4RCA was at Shell Harbor on the St. Johns south of Palatka, Fla., and Ted, W4OBB was at Palatka. W4DU, the Jacksonville Amateur Radio Society Station was on the Boat "Cock Robin" at the turn around the point. There were other "Ham's" who assisted but their calls and handles are not known at this time.

This small but effective communications system was able to keep the public and race officials informed as to what boat went by what checkpoint at what time, what boat was stranded and out of the race—where, what the condition of the injured driver of one boat was, and to what hospital he was taken to. W41 NGR loaned his 2 meter rig to CAP who communicated with a plane looking for lost boats.

Out of 42 boats to start, 19 were able to make the complete trip. The others fell by the wayside and had to be recovered by their "pit crew".

The coast guard auxiliary did a fine job of patroling the river, warning people of the race boats and towing those that conked out far from shore. All boats were accounted for to the satisfaction of the race officials and they, in turn, commended those hams taking part in the communication system for a job "well done!"

The Sangord Boat and Ski Club, Inc., the Host Club for this race also expressed their appreciation for the fine job done by Amateur Radio. We hope that we can, next year, the first Sunday in May, provide an even better system for them. It was a lot of fun. Believe me?

73, Case, W4NGR

FROM THE F.C.C.

A letter was sent FCC last month by George Thurston, W4-MLE, SEC of Western Florida to get the facts about the procedure for the declaration of a general state of communications emergency. We (both SEC's) feel you should know what the FCC replied for future guidance.

"The answers to the questions posed in your letter are given in the order presented.

1. ARRL emergency official(s) at the Section level may request the Commission to declare a general state of communications emergency in accordance with the provisions of the Section. Such requests should be made to the Engineer in Charge of the area concerned.

2. The frequencies to be cleared are designated by the Commission's Engineer in Charge after consultation with amateurs responsible for emergency network operation and consideration of other pertinent factors.

3. The net control station has no special authority other than directing net operation unless authorized by the commission to promulgate information regarding declaration of a communications emergency. Refer to Section 12.156 (b) regarding the designation by the Commission of amateur stations to promulgate information regarding a Commission - declared communications emergency.

4. A communications emergency is terminated by the Commission or its authorized representatives. Announcement of such termination would be made by amateur station(s) designated by the Commission. If you wish, you may contact the Engineer in Charge of your radio district for more detailed information. Very truly yours, Gen. F. Waple, Acting Secretary FCC.

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the WINNER!

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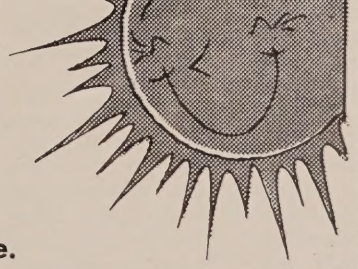

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FLORIDORA YL NEWS

By Anne Pitcher, K4RDX

The St. Petersburg Hamfest, held in Phillippe Park, was a great success. The weather was perfect for an old fashioned picnic dinner. Floridoras who attended were: K4PNH, Sonya; W4BAV, Cathy; W4IUR, Mim; W4HRC, Little Bo; K4YDB, Betty; K4RNS, Marge; W4WPD, Shirley; K4LFA, Dot; K4UIZ, Ev; W4TDK, Naomi; K4PLT, Sandy; K4BQI, Marge; W4BIL, Fran; and K4CSC, Edna, a new member. Nina, W4UQD, from Bradenton was also there.

For traveling the greatest distance to attend the Hamfest, Betty, K4YDB won flowers and perfume. Between them, Betty and her OM, Carl, K4HSH won three prizes. They made the trip to the Hamfest in their new Volkswagon. Fran, W4BIL, won a mobile antenna. Other lucky winners were K4UIZ, Ev; and W4IUR, Mim.

Saturday evening of the Hamfest, Fran, W4BIL had open house and was delighted with 22 guests for cake and coffee. Floridoras present were: K4PNH, Sonya; W4BAV, Cathy; W4HRC, Little Bo; K4YDB, Betty; K4RNS, Marge; W4IUR, Mim; W4WPD, Shirley; K4LFA, Dot; and hostess, W4BIL, Fran.

Sunday evening, after the Hamfest, Shirley, W4WPD and her OM, Earl, W4UFR gave a supper party in honor of Tom Moss, W4HYW, our QSL Manager from Atlanta, Georgia. George, W4PJU and his YL, Irene; and W4KUM, Sam were also present. Tom says he is holding stacks and stacks of rare and exotic QSL cards. How about sending YOUR SASE to him today. You might get it right back with a nice surprise enclosed!

Floridora Net Manager, Joan, K4JZX did a FB job as Net Control for June. Jodi, K4UHA, will be back from her two weeks vacation in Washington, D.C., in time to take Net Control for July.

The newest and loveliest piece of jewelry is the Floridora Pin. Made of sterling silver, the Floridora Girl has been fashioned with such artistry she appears three-dimensional. The Gals received their pins early in June and have been talking of little else since then! Be sure to let Shirley, W4WPD, know if your pin arrived safely. The Club has purchased 5 pins and 2 charms to have on hand for new members as they join.

Our new and hard working SCM, K4SJH, must be an ole rag chewer at heart. In addition to the VY FB job he is doing, he found time to work ten Floridoras and earn Certificate No. 159. Hope you like it, Ham. Certificate No. 163 went to W1HOY, Helen in Massachusetts. Didja know VP7BO, Lee, operating from Grand Bahama Island was the first DX Station to earn a Floridora Certificate?

The SSB Net has suspended operation until September 12 but the Gals who operate SSB only, have been welcomed aboard the Monday Phone Net and grouped together on roll call in order to make operating together a little easier for all.

Past President of the Floridoras, Ruth, W4BWR has been awarded the A1 Operator's Certificate. Ruth doesn't know who recommended her for the Certificate but sends 88 to the thoughtful persons who submitted her name. Hi! Congratulations Ruth, it couldn't happen to a nicer gal!

Eula, K4OEP, a Charter Member of the Floridoras will be on or near the Floridora Net frequency on Thursdays at 1400 EST. K4RED and K4RDX have been getting together with her and others are invited to join in.

While talking to the Club Station in the Marshall Islands, Marge, K4RNS discovered she was in QSO with Sam, the OM of Dot, formerly W4GAL, now KX-6AB. Dot, who was a Floridora while in Jacksonville, was at home reading the mail and recognized Marge. She jumped on her bicycle, raced to the Club Station, and gave Marge a breathless, "Hi yo' all!" Sam was glad to see the Gals get together and says he will retire in 1962 and he and Dot will return to Florida. Dot sends greetings to the Floridoras and says she will be happy to join in the Nets again next year. In the meantime, she says to look for her on 15 meters about 1800 EST. Good going, Marge!

Little Bo, W4HRC, will soon be back on the air with her new 5100-B and 51-SB-B. We sure have missed you, Little Bo. Mim, W4IUR, and Walt, K4VNA, attended the festivities at Cape Canaveral and had lunch with Lucy, K4RED, and Jim, W4EVB while there. Mim is delighted at having new siding put on her home.

K4HSC-4, Meg, in Hiawassee, Ga., is now enjoying almost perfect health again. She has been boating and is thoroughly enjoying her stay in Georgia. She even had Orchids blooming for Mother's Day. FB, Meg!

Russel is returning home from College for the summer and Shirley, W4WPD, is in a rush getting ready to welcome him home. K4YDB's sister welcomed twins into the family. Mim and Walt returned home from the St. Petersburg Hamfest via Benzee's Barn. K4JZU, Joan's Om was promoted to Staff Sergeant before having to report for his two weeks of Military Duty.

W4WPD, Shirley, is now on 6 meters with about 40 watts and is having a Ball! The Gals in the St. Petersburg-Tampa area expect to have a 6 meter Net in operation shortly.

FLAMINGO NET NEWS

"CQ Flamingo" was the call most heard on 10 meters during the Flamingo Net's Worked All Flamingo Contest held among its members here recently. The object of the Contest was to get all the newcomers and old timers to work one another and get to know each other. I wonder how some of the boys felt to be pounced on by 7 or 8 members trying to get a contact with him. Kinda like a DX station I'll bet. Hi! I can vouch that it was a knock-down drag-out affair until the very last minute. The Contest was a smashing success as everyone had a swell time. The winner with 39 out of 48 members worked was Dora-K4-CYF who won herself a DX callbook. Congratulations to Dora for a FB job!

Everyone in the Net has by this time received their card with the complete list of Flamingo Net members. The Net wants to congratulate Moe-K4-DJW our secretary-treasurer for the very FB job he did on fixing up this list. Anyone outside of the Net can obtain a copy of this list from Moe by sending 10 cents in stamps to 1136 SW 74th Court, Miami, Florida. The list will come in handy when working for our Certificate.

Speaking of Certificate, the boys and girls of the Net have really been having their hand's full giving out contacts on 10 meters to all the Skip stations that have been booming thru lately. It is not common to have anywhere from 10 to 20 Skip stations calling at the same time. Word is surely getting around about our Certificate which is a very fine piece of wallpaper. The Net has pased out almost a thousand as of this date.

The evening of June 3rd the Net held another dinner-get-together at Toby's restaurant. The hylite of the evening came as Paul K4YSS our activities chairman presented a takeoff on "This Is Your Life". Victim, uhhh I mean, featured person, was Evelyn W4WYR. HI! Evelyn's whole Ham carrer was unfurled before her in some instances to her embarrassment. But it was all in fun and everyone present enjoyed it immensely. Congratulations to Paul on a FB job.

K4IFR-Chester reports that he has received a Certificate electing him to the Old, Old Timers Club. Congrats Chester! Chester also wants to pass on that he is monitoring 28.6 and 28.8 continuously in case folks in Miami want to get in touch with someone real quick.

K4JJU-Warren reports he received his Skunk Net Certificate recently. Quite a few boys in the Net are receiving their Skunk Net Certificates as short skip on 10 is really booming through.

W4NJM-Jim has swapped in his mobile gear for a new G-76 transceiver outfit. He was on testing it in preparation for his two week vacation up into Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina. Sounds like you are going to be mobiling in style, Jim! By the way, Jim's father was in the North Shore Hospital for a short while but Jim reports that he is home now and getting along just fine.

That's all fer now. See you all on the Net 29.044 mc.

Walt Dixon, W4DWN

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TRAFFIC HOUNDS

E. FLORIDA — MAY

K4SJH	597	BPL	ORS-OPS
W4SDR	317		ORS-OPS
K4LCF	233		OPS
K4KDN	224		ORS
W4AKB	184		
W4TRS	141		
W4DVR	132		ORS-OPS
K4ENW	118		OPS
K4COO	114		ORS
W4FE	104		
W4FPC	101		
W4CNZ	96		OPS
W4EHW	92		ORS-OPS
K4VSA	69		OPS
K4FMA	61		ORS
K4DBT	60		
K4BZ	59		OPS
W4EAT	53		OPS
W4FFF	50		ORS
K4BY	49		ORS
K4BHL	48		
K4AX	47		ORS
W4WPD	45		
W4BKC	39		OPS
W5ESB-4	37		
W4AZJ	36		OPS
KN4YSN	35		
K4MTP	33		ORS-OPS
W4IYT	31		ORS
K4OZS	31		OPS
K4ANR	27		
W4LSA	27		
W4VCX	27		OPS
W4NGR	26		
K4VNA	25		
K4BOO	25		
W4IUR			
W4AYD	24		OPS
W4HTH	24		
W4UHB	24		
W4SMK	22		
W4CWD	21		
K4AKQ	20		OPS
K4DAX	19		OPS
K4RDX	18		
K4ZIF	17		OPS
K4JZU	17		OPS
K4MZR	17		
K4WIP	17		
K4FQS	16		
K4YPN	12		
W4BBZ	12		ORS
W4DSH	12		
W4LMT	12		ORS-OPS
K4BNE	11		OPS
K4ANJ	10		OPS
K4RBR	10		
W4QVJ	9		ORS
K4RNS	9		OPS
K4TTT	9		
K4VGD	8		
K4JJZ	6		OPS
W4TAS	4		OPS-ORS
K4JZX	2		OPS
K4LLI	2		
WN4BNC	1		
K4GBS	0		ORS
W4GOG	0		ORS
Total	3778		

WA6FCO/4-3285

LATE FOR APRIL

W4SDR	249		ORS-OPS
K4RBR	20		
K4VGD	8		

SPARKS 'N SPUTTERS

By Sandy, K4DHD

Tip to new generals: Don't try to lead your transx with the VFO on standby. T'wont work and it may burn up your transx . . . As a certain new big ticket recently did on his first day on the phone . . . An $11 lesson in electronics . . .

Kent Taylor, K4AHU, age 12, in a cast from here down to there for a spinal defect, due home from hospital by the time this appears. How's about some cheering and encouraging calls (PL 4-8566) from Miami area hams?

Oddity: Oscar, WA6HIY, a native Floridian living in California, worked on AM by Sandy, K4-DHD, a native Californian living in Florida . . . To those who wonder what happened to the projected North Dade Radio Club: Am advised that the Miami Radio Club is moving to new quarters on 95th St., which is within reach of those in N. Dade . . .

Flowers While They Can Still Smell'em Dept.: Without the generous help and advice of such swell guys as K4MAV, K4KRB K4CYI (and others), this OM would never have made the grade.

I've Been Told Dept.: "They" told me you can't load up a DX-40 on the 20-meter band with a 40-meter dipole antenna . . . So I went and done it anyway . . . And worked N.C., Tenn., and Turk's Island . . .

W4LVV	3
Total	280

NET TOTALS - MAY 1961

QFN	657	13.41
FMTN	501	20.0
FPTN	314	11.6
TPTN	178	5.7
GN	133	5.72
MCEN	17	4.02

Total net traffic handled and reported — 1800.

The great difference between total net traffic and individual traffic handled seems to indicate that some nets are not reporting their activity which isn't helping the Eastern Florida Section to hold its' own against the other states. We realize, of course, that much traffic is also handled on nets not a part of this section.

Wish to thank all that are making a real effort to help by increased activity and by reporting. Let's make 1961 a big year and leave no doubt about who is tops.

W. FLORIDA - MAY

K4UBR	375
K4JDW	59
K4VND	55
W4WEB	29
K4ZMV	6
K4SJP	4

BROWARD COUNTY

SIX METER NEWS

By Fran Adams, K4PPX

The six meter gang has been having a real ball now that the summer openings are back with us again. Rare states and new countries have been heard and worked. All the continental call areas, from the ones thru the zeros,VE, VO, XE 1, TI 2 and KP 4 signals heard and worked —and we hear that KL 7 was heard if not worked. Al K4BZ worked a VP 5 in Turks Island.

K4HIL-Herman up Pompano way has been working above 51 mcs and doing very well, proving that we DON'T HAVE TO ALL CROWD TO THE LOW END OF THE BAND. K4LTW-Tom of Wilton Manor is on with a Sixer.

K4RCX-Jeri was thrilled when she picked up Utah for a new state and TI2NA for a new country. Om Bill, K4RCV worked the TI2 and Arizona but was too late for Utah. Womans luck, huh Bill? W4URK-Joe of Melrose Park has worked his first "DX" on six meter CW with his Sixer. Joe now has a HQ-170 and long-John beam to help in the receiving, but still uses the Sixer in transmitting.

WA4ALS-Jerry is another new six meter-ite, he is running a Viking Challenger and receiving great reports. W4NUT-MM-George has been heard operating from northern waters- give us a listen sometime George. K4-UVS-Jim has new beam up, still trying to get some DX.

K4FKS, Al and K4IIR, Dee were visitors back here in their old stamping grounds, sorry we didn't get to work them. W4UAV -Pat has been having a big ball during his first real opening, picking up new states like mad. K4QQE-Arch has finally added some new states, got Arizona, Maine and Vermont to run his total up to 41. Fran, K4PPX, got her 43rd, Arizona and TI2NA. She is working for more certificates in the meantime.

K4ACF-Nancy in HWD is giving Chuck a run for his money, has picked up Arizona, California, South Dakota, among others to run her total way up there 'with the boys." Nancy was one of the states highest scorers during the June VHF Contest, really upholding Browards reputation as always being well represented in the contests. Chuck, K4IQS had better watch out, Nancy will soon be passing him by.

W4LPR-Adele and W4IMZ-Red are being heard quite regularly nowadays from Plantation Park. W4ULZ-Merv is another new operator on from Ft. Lauderdale.

DADE COUNTY

6 METER NEWS

By Walt Stock W4IIS

Band openings recently have been out of this world. Seems as though all districts are being heard and worked at the same time. Anyone liking DX on 6 can sure get their fill.

KP4's, especially KP4CK and KP4AAN, have been working this area quite regularly. They usually run 40 to 50 over 9 and the Miami boys always enjoy working Puerto Rico.

W4RII—Dave formerly from Jacksonville, an ex-9, is now residing in Miami. New to 6 meters is K4WZM—Ed. Oh yes, speaking of Ed, K4HCD is being transferred to Norfolk, Va. Keep in touch with us Ed. This guy XE-10E has sure been putting in a real signal in Miami. Hope everyone works him so I can get a chance. Another new station in Homestead is Jack K4YVK. Welcome to the group Jack. W4NUR finally worked a 6 land with that box of nuts and bolts he calls a transmitter. O.K. Fred, I'm waiting. We understand by the grapevine that K4ROG, working portable, worked Alaska on 5-22-61. What charm these young ones have.

A "VO" station was heard in Miami but don't know of anyone who may have worked him. W4-IIS had the pleasure of working W4QGF-2 who moved from Miami to New York. Don't worry, Gibby will be back. W4IIS was calling "CJ" California recently and KP4CK called and said "this is KP4CK-California backwards." Anyway, we think its funny.

Then there fas the "Ham" setting up for field day in the local park when he was asked by an officer as he pointed to a sign on the grass, "Can't you read Buddy?" The Ham answered, "Who's smoking?" P.S. The sign said "KEEP OFF THE GRASS."

The D.E.N. — Dade Emergency Net — should be operating from their new N.C.S. headquarters at the Sheriff's office soon. Final installation preparations are now being made for members to be able to participate in operating procedures.

Good Vacationing To All
Good DX
Walt W4IIS

6 METER SINGLE SIDEBAND

Pat Ferro, W4WAQ

The past month has seen numerous band openings to all of the stateside areas, plus Cuba, Puerto Rico, Uruguay, Argentina, and Canada.

The activity of Single Sideband stations has increased significantly over last years Band openings, and after discussion with many AM Stations additional increases should be noticed in the coming months.

Some idea of the activity of Single Sideband was demonstrated Saturday afternoon, June 3rd, where, within one hour Sideband contacts were made to all areas with the exception of the 7th, and including a KP4. Later in the afternoon, the 7th call area was actively heard in this area.

Band conditions on 6 seem to be at one of its all time peaks, with Band openings running almost around the clock.

On the low end of the Band, 50.105-50.120, as many as 7 Sideband QSO's were in progress at the same time. This is a good indication of the tremendous interest in 6 meter Sideband, and it is the writer's feeling that many more Stations would be operating Sideband, except for problems in obtaining equipment.

Some of the new equipment being featured for 6 is the Hallicrafters' new Model HA-6 Transverter for SSB and other modes of transmission. The new HA-6 offers amateur, with 10 Meter transmitting and receiving equipment, a piece of equipment that will give them 120 watts PEP on 6 SSB.

This transverter changes a 10 Meter output to the 6 Meter range, and also converts the received VHF signal down to 10 Meters for reception. The 5894 tube, used in the transmitter final amplifier, can be driven up to 120 watts PEP input. All modes of transmission and reception are useable with this unit, depending on the type of 10 Meter equipment used.

An additional feature of this transverter is the nuvistor front end in the receiver section, which is supposed to provide excellent sensitivity and noise figure. The unit can be driven by exciters, with outputs from 10-100 watts. The unit also contains a built-in coaxial antenna relay.

The tube line-up is a 12AT7 crystal oscillator; 6AH6 buffer amplifier; 6CW4 RF amplifier, for receiving; 6AN4 mixer, for receiving; a twelve BY7 mixer, for transmitting; 6360 driver, for transmitting; and a 5894 final amplifier. This unit does not have its own power supply, although these are available, as Model P26, and require 750 volts at 160 MA; 250 volts at 70 MA; and minus 60 volts at 10 MA. The tentative price for the transverter unit will be in the $450.00 range, with no price available at present for the power supply.

The popular P & H Model 600 A Transmitting Converter, manufactured by the P & H Electronic Company, in Lafayette, Indiana, appears to have been discontinued in favor of a similar unit but followed with a linear amplifier, which probably will be the 5894 all on one chassis. When this unit will be available is not known. Should the price of this unit be reasonable, it undoubtedly will have great appeal to Hams interested in 6 Meter operation, both SSB and AM. Additional information on this will be printed as soon as received.

For you fellows interested in 6 Meter Single Sideband operation, the four high powered and six medium and low powered Sideband Stations from Miami can be heard almost nightly below 50.150 Mc. starting at approximately 1900 hours EST.

ABOUT REPORTING

Did you know that if you hold any ARRL appointment that there are certain minimum activity requirements?

That you are requested to report this activity on a monthly basis to either Headquarters ARRL or your SCM or both?

That if the SCM does not hear from you for two or three months that he has no recourse but to cancel your appointment? Exceptions are made for sickness, absence from the section, etc. In any case the SCM would like to be kept informed as to your status so that he may know what to do.

That reporting requirements are purposely simplified as much as is practical so that the least amount of your time and effort will be needed to comply?

That, by reporting, you are supporting not only your own Eastern Florida Section and ARRL but your HOBBY as well?

If you feel the least bit proud of that piece of paper up on your shack wall—and you must have had SOME motive in applying for it— why not let ME know what you are doing so that others may know as well and perhaps benefit by it.

Thank You

Ham K4SJH SCM

THE FLORIDA SIDEBANDERS

The past month has seen considerable activity on 3940 KCS. Most notable of these was the election of officers for the Florida Sidebanders for the ensuing six month period. Officers elected on 11 June were: President W4GJI, Tip, West Palm Beach: Vice President W4JQ, Tony, West Palm Beach; Second Vice President W4DKJ, Art, Fort Myers; Third Vice President, W4TY, Bob, St. Petersburg; Secretary K4FQH "MG", Arcadia. This would appear to be an outstanding slate of officers and it is expected that the Florida Sidebanders will grow and prosper under the guidance of these fine gentlemen. I am sure that all the members of the Florida Side banders will join me in a vote of confidence to the outgoing officers and also a wish for good luck for the incoming officers.

It is with pride and pleasure that we announce the certification of three new members of the Florida Sidebanders. W4ANH, Ward, of Pinellas Park received certificate number 55; W4TKE, Walt, Jacksonville certificate number 56 and K4OJD, Janice, Fort Pierce is now proud possessor of number 57.

There have been a lot of new call signs appearing on 3940 KC during the past month, these include: W4SJC, Les, Indian River City; K4EBZ, Mel, Lake Worth; W4IYP, Allen, Gainesville; W4-EIE, John, St. Augustine; W4-MUI, Phil, Miami Beach; K4JZX, Joan, Fort Pierce; K4JZU, Rollin, Fort Pierce; K4RDX, Anne, Stuart; W4RWM, Fred, Daytona Beach; W4FPC, Mac, St. Petersburg; W4PUW, Ralph, Titusville. All of these newcomers, now associate members of the Florida Sidebanders, are welcomed to our Sunday afternoon get togethers. We hope that their attendance will be continued until they become certificated members.

We would like to announce that K4DBT, George, of Stuart has been appointed to, and has accepted the position of, Assistant Net Manager for the Fast Net. In addition it is also noted that George has the new "S" line in operation and is really putting the hours on his gear with a fine business signal. However, would like to suggest that we hear the call sign K4RDX, and the voice accompanying that call sign, a little more than we hear K4DBT and the voice accompanying that call sign ! ! !

On the basis of past success in handling of emergency traffic, the Florida Sidebanders Emergency Net has been requested by, and has agreed to assist, the Florida State Forestry Division in the handling of emergency traffic in any emergency that organization might face. All members of the Florida Sidebanders are again reminded of the Florida Sidebanders Emergency Net, officially sponsored by the Florida Sidebanders, which meets each Wednesday evening at 1930 hours on 3940 KCS for drill and test. With the oncoming hurricane season your assistance is vitally needed.

At the risk of being told off by several members of the Florida Sidebanders this reporter would like to editorialize for a few lines here. We continue to note a large number of the Sidebander stations repeatedly being informed of off frequency operations during the various round tables and nets. May we suggest that if you receive several notifications of being off frequency, or of drifting off frequency, you check up on the proper method of zero beating a single sideband net and also check on the stability of your VFO's. Off frequency operation of single sideband stations is not the "Unforgiveable Sin", but it is annoying and increases the difficulty of copying the various stations. We are certain that continued efforts on the part of all single sideband operators to exhibit proper operateing procedures will be heartily endorsed and appreciated by all.

That appears to be the output of my balanced modulators for this month, see you on 3940 KCS, and READ FLORIDA SKIP.

Burt, W4NCZ

OPERATOR SHORTAGE

According to a recent survey from all Florida net shows that there are some 213 amateur stations in Florida who are regular active in traffic nets and traffic handling.

The weak spots, in numbers, are surprising places—Broward County with only 3 reliables.

Alachua county with only 3.

Duval county with only 7.

Escambia county with only 6, (but 4 c.w. stations!)

Palm Beach county with only 5.

Orange county with 14 but only 2 c.w. men!

Hillsborough with millions of SSB and A-3 stations and 2 c.w. men.

Now, we know for a fact, there are plenty of good c.w. men in our State. Where are you c.w. men? Where are you lazy-bone counties? Let's "GO— ALL GO!"

you must come and see us in our NEW HOME

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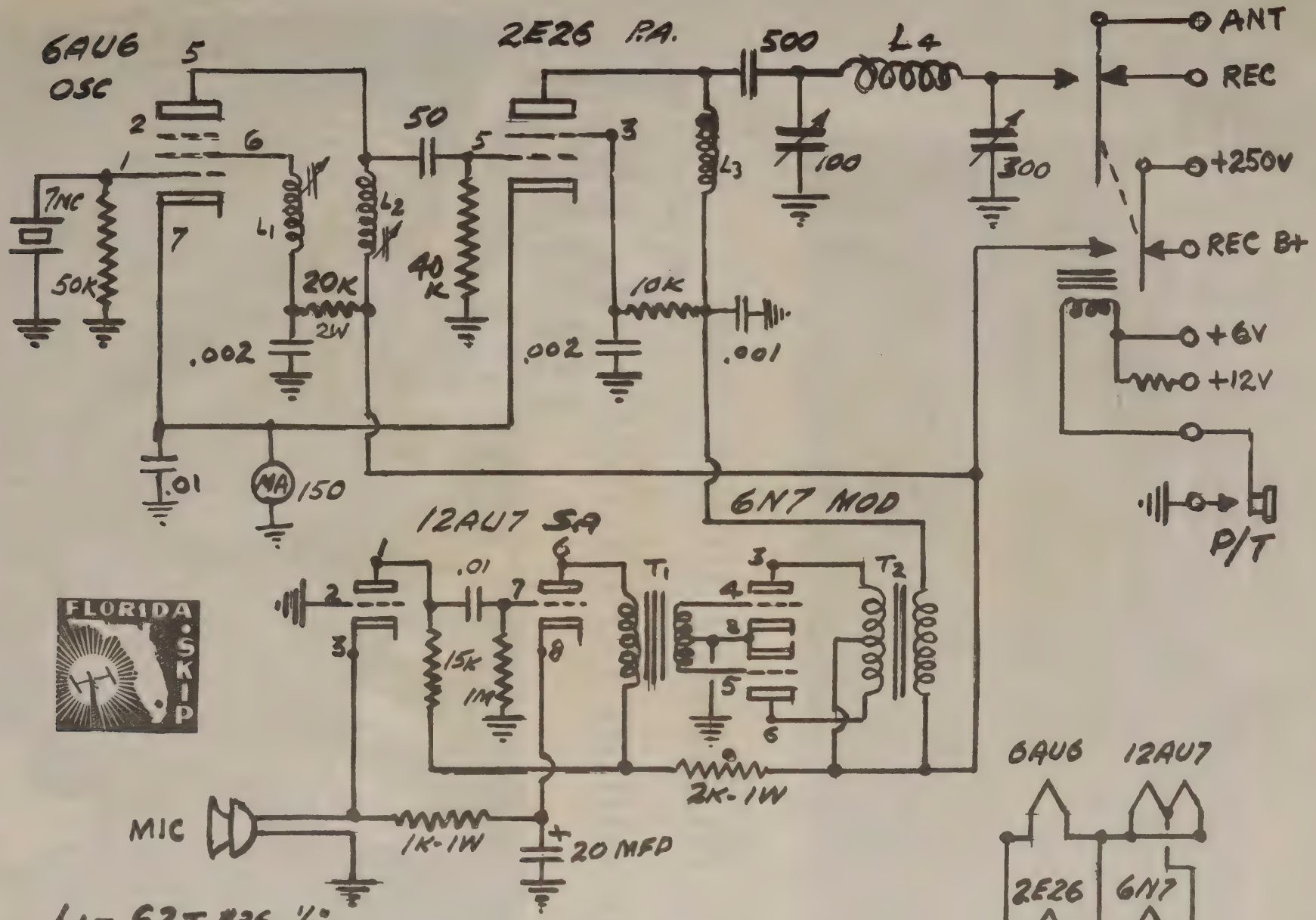
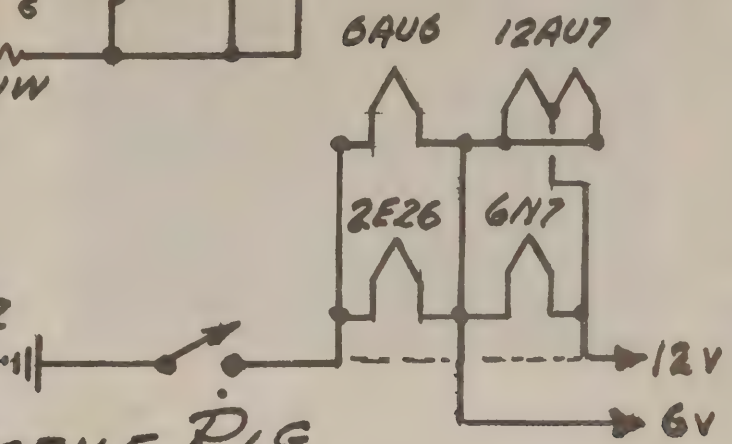


L1 - 62T #36 - 1/2" DIA
L2 - 9T #20 - 1/2" DIA
L3 - 2 1/2 MH RFC
L4 - 8T #16 - 1/2" DIA

T1 - MERIT A-2922
T2 - MERIT A-3008



WA1EQ MOBILE RIG

SHOULD AMATEUR LICENSING BE RE-EVALUATED

With the event of 11 meters being opened for Citizens' band operation, the need for and worth of several classes of Amateur Operator, has curtailed. Before the opening of this new service, many persons with a very limited knowledge of amateur radio and an even more limited desire to delve into the technical phase of the art obtained Amateur Class licenses solely for the purposes of communication. They might be classified as "Amateurs of Talk" as contrasted with "Amateurs of Radio" (those who are interested in the technical aspects of radio communication and experimentation). These "Amateurs of Talk" almost invariably took the line of least resistance and obtained a license in one of the three classes that are cynically (but all-too-accurately) known as the "perjury class", Novice, Technician, and Conditional.

Now, however, the situation is altered. A person who merely wants to talk to others over a radio station can obtain a license by simply filling out a form and submitting it to the FCC. He does not have to go through the trouble of learning the code and theory, or(as is often done, skipping these formalities and falsely swearing that he has met the stipulated requirements and having his perjury backed by some renegade amateur.

In the light of these developments. it would seem advisable to reconsider amateur licensing requirements. The Novice Class serves an excellent purpose. It fills a real need in that it forms a ready path for the uninitiated to follow to higher fields of amateur radio. Being of one year duration, it quickly weeds out those who have no continuing interest. It could be made of much more worth by returning to the original practice of having this examination administered by an FCC engineer. If not this, then the examination could (and should) be given by a board consisting of one amateur, one police officer, and one public official. This would reduce the incidence of perjury and permit a novice to take pride in the possession of his license.

The Technician Class has a place, too. Let it be obtained by the same manner as suggested above for the Novice and require a yearly submission to the FCC of the scope and extent of the technical work accomplished by the "Tech" as is done by the holders of Experimental Class licenses. Since holders of Technician Class licenses vehemently proclaim that they are the only true experimenters in the field of amateur radio, surely they should not object to publishing the results of their research to a governmental agency.

The Conditional Class also has a definite place. It, too, should be obtained by an examination given by a three man board, as previously mentioned.

Finally, all classes of licenses should be subject to re-examination especially those obtained by examination other than that given by an FCC engineer. All who fail such examinations should have to take any further amateur tests that they may wish to take under the supervision of an FCC Examiner only.

Only by returning amateur radio to "Amateurs of Radio" can we hope to survive the ever-increasing pressure for additional frequencies by the commercial and military services.

(K9GSV-CARC-CARRIER)

ARE YOU A LISTENER?

Herb, K4LCF

PAM 75 Mtrs.

With Hurricane season here thought this would be a good time to point out several items of interest. Certainly hope that all concerned will remember to be good listeners if and when the emergency nets have to go into operation.

Had a good example on FPTN one morning just a few weeks ago when I intentionally had a low power station assume net control one morning. The same old story, all hands jumping in and trying to assist — again, intentions are good but the results are very confusing.

If net controls need assistance they will usually ask for it from stations which they know are in locations where they can help the most. I guess we all have a little hidden hero in us and unfortunately, it comes to light at very odd times.

I know many times when I have been listening, temptation to transmit has been very great and I had to practically sit on my hands to keep from doing the wrong thing.

Now is the time to get all your antennas in shape by checking your guy wires if you have a diapole or a doublet. Also, check your tube rack for spares . . . If you have a generator, check it and put it in tip top shape for emergency operation.

Ingredients for a good Emergency operator — Be a good listener . . .

FORT MYERS AMATEUR CLUB NEWS

By the time this hits the presses Field Day 1961 will be fond memory, the hang-overs will be cured, and some club will be the proud possessor of that Fla. Skip Trophy. W4LX-4 will be in there pitching for the Ft. Myers gang at a new location at Page Field Airport. We will run 3 rigs in the 150 watt limit class on all bands 80 thru 6 meters, and AM, CW, SSB. Hope to at least better last year's score if we don't end up on top of the heap. W4-KET is FD chairman, ably assisted by W1ORP, K4OBD, W4-SMK, and 45 more eager (?) club members. We hope all the clubs everywhere have as much fun as we always do at FD.

The local Civil Defense communication activities are red hot. We have a new radio shack at Page Field, complete with emergency generators in a shed, plenty of antenna poles and a tower, even equipped with a stove and refrigerator (courtesy CD Director Hitzing). Best of all is the latest word that our plan and matching funds are approved, and in a few more weeks the 6 meter gear and other equipment will be on hand. Just in time for Hurricane Season if needed. Hats off to Director Hitzing, Commo Officer K4OBD, the county commissioners, and other local officials and CD members who have cooperated and worked so hard to bring this about.

Had a FB visit and talk by Dave, K4AG, a few weeks ago at the CD meeting. He showed us how the 13 county S. Fla. area is tied into a good communications set up, and of the job Dade Co. has done. It is a comfort to know that CD communications is becoming more of a reality than a plan on paper. Some day we may not have to "simulate 6 meters" on 75 meter SSB. Speaking of that, the author monitored most of Opal 61, and that SSB is the answer, as most everyone agreed.

One criticism the local gang, and others, make of SSB nets is that the members are not zero beat, making it necessary to constantly retune the receiver. Fellows, it's no problem to zero, especially with a rig like the HT-37 with variable calibrate level control, put enough rf into the receiver to make the SSB NCS sound natural, then tune the VFO slowly to clear up any tendency to sound like Donald Duck. Turn your receivers and VFO's on 30 minutes before net time, and they should be stable, but even the best gear drifts some, so remember to zero beat again every 15 or 20 minutes or so.

Another thing we hear is some rather petty arguments about whether the NCS is on 3910 or 3909 Kc. We don't all have 75A4's or real accurate freq. meters, and even crystals vary some, so why quibble over a Kc. or two (unless it's on the band edge)? They told us in the Army that the frequency the NCS was on was the net frequency, no matter what freq. he chose, and heaven help the net member that disagreed.

Lots of the local gang are on vacation or on active duty with the military reserves.

Still get lots of local QSL's addressed to W4XXX, Ft. Myers. Some time it's like the proverbial needle in the haystack finding him, especially if W4XXX is a passing tourist. The author just bought a new call book, and now I know why more fellows don't address the cards. The price goes up and the print gets smaller all the time. It's too much for my weak eyes and ditto pocket book.

That's 30 fer now. CU next issue. 73 Ken, W4SMK.

CIVIL DEFENSE NOTE

State CD Communications Officer Art Melvin, W4UHY, reminds that all Florida traffic addressed to OCDM, Thomasville, should be routed through State CD HQ, in Jacksonville, whether the address on the message spells this out or not. Please be guided accordingly.

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OLD TIMERS CHAIR

Hank McMurria, W4TAS

The man who probably did more than any other in proving the value of short waves for communication purposes is now retired and living in Bradenton, Florida.

He is Fred H. Schnell, W4CF, who served as Traffic Manager for A.R.R.L. for about six years in the early 1920's. Fred was also associated with C. F. Burgess Laboratories and for a number of years he held top ranking positions with Motorola and with the City of Chicago.

A bit of his interesting background is revealed in an old issue of QST in the "Who's Who In Amateur Wireless" column . . .

"Fred is a well known figure around Chicago amateur meetings. His interest in radio dates from 1908 when he started to make an inch spark-coil but, deciding it was too small, started making a transformer which suffered the same fate. Then a 1 KW open core. Discarding this (to increase his range over that obtained when the window was open), he made a 2 KW. This was back in 1911, and the days of unlimited power and wave length and the Chicago Wireless Association had him listed as a long distance amateur with a range of 20 miles. The law of 1912 scared him into getting a decent set and the 3-slide tuner and silicon went with the old transmitter. In 1917 he became a 3rd class Electrician, Radio, in the Naval Reserve, was successively promoted to 2nd., 1st., and finally Chief, serving at Great Lakes, Belmar, and Washington Trans-Atlantic Radio Control Office. He made three trips with the presidential party on the U.S.S. George Washington."

"His results as Chicago City Manager, in ARRL show him a regular whirlwind at organization. Our Central Division Manager's right-hand man, he outgrew the City Manager's job and is now Eastern Section Assistant for W9ZN."

It was late in 1920 when Fred had also served as chairman of the Chicago Executive Council, and had been responsible for a Chicago Plan (voluntary spark-era quiet periods in which DX spark signals from other areas of the country be heard and worked), following the resignation of J. O. Smith as Traffic Manager, Fred was added to the then small staff of ARRL as Traffic Manager and made "relay progress his daily concern" November 1920 QST has his operating department's first greeting and request for cooperation.

A few months after Fred Schnell assumed his post as Traffic Manager, he became involved in the problem of finding out if signals could be heard across the Atlantic.

"Some two dozen American amateurs transmitted pre-arranged signals on February 1, 3, and 5, 1921, which were listened for by about two hundred and fifty British experimenters, with prizes offered by manufacturers on both sides to the amateur turning in the best performance. The results were negative.

At a meeting of the ARRL Board of Direction during the first national convention that year, Traffic Manager Fred H. Schnell presented a plan to ensure that any possible deficiencies in British receiving techniques would not imperil the possibilities of amateur signals being heard across the Atlantic on these tests. He proposed that a qualified American amateur be sent overseas with the best available amateur receiving gear to supplement the efforts of the British listeners.

Paul E. Godley, 2XE, probably the foremost receiving expert in America at that time made the trip to England. On this second attempt to cross the Atlantic, it was proved that amateur signals transmitted with the meager maximum power of one KW on the despised wavelength of two hundred meters could cross the Atlantic."

Tests looking toward the establishing of two way amateur communication across the Atlantic were almost immediately instituted by Traffic Manager Schnell. In January of 1923, the first attempt was made with negative results.

"In November of 1923, Lion Deloy of Nice, France cabled Traffic Manager Schnell that he would transmit on 100 meters from 9 to 10 p.m. starting November 25th.

Schnell flashed this news over ARRL traffic routes. Many stations were listening. On the night of November 27, 1923, Schnell had secured special permission from the Supervisor of Radio at Boston to use the 100 meter wavelength. The results were the FIRST two way communication across the Atlantic. Schnell, 1MO and John L. Reinartz, 1 XAM-1 QP maintained communications with 8AB in France and Americans and Europeans were working for the first time."

It was during this time that articles in QST by Fred showed a upswing in traffic handling. League memberships were increasing rapidly.

"In April of 1925, the Navy Department secured the services of Fred H. Schnell, Traffic Manager of ARRL to conduct tests on short waves during a seven months Australian cruise. The Navy had been attracted by the astounding results secured by amateur utilization of the short waves. It wanted to investigate and, if possible, to adapt. What better way to secure a demonstration than by having an amateur perform it? Schnell, by reason of his trans-atlantic and subsequent work was regarded as the outstanding short wave amateur of the time. Fred was given a leave of absence from his post at ARRL and he was commissioned a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy. He built a special amateur-CW transmitter and receiver of the most modern type and installed them aboard the flagship, the U.S.S. "Seattle" under the call NRRL. Throughout the voyage, long after the long wave sets had failed, the amateur short wave contact was unflagging, reliable. All Schnell had to do was announce his presence on the air and a hundred voices clamored for his call. Since that time the Navy has been consistently in the fore of high-frequency practice and progress."

Fred Schnell is reticent to tell of his part in the history of amateur radio. I have only hit on a few of the highlights. Fred is active on 20 meters SSB. He keeps in touch with many of his friends via the air-waves and has many distinguished visitors drop by for a visit while in Florida.

Editors Note: Our thanks to F. E. Handy of the ARRL staff for digging into old copies of QST for information. Also, excerpts were taken from Clinton B. DeSoto's book "Two Hundred Meters and Down" an ARRL publication.

By W4TAS

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY C. D. APPOINTMENT

By Roy Scott — W4UHF

Col. Ray Mills, Director of the Office of Civil Defense in Hillsborough County, Florida, has announced the appointment of Ray Murphy, W4BNE, as Deputy Service Chief, Communications Service, Tampa - Hillsborough County Civil Defense. Ray is President of HARS (Hillsborough Amateur Radio Society Inc.) and Studio Operations Supervisor of WFLA-TV and WFLA Radio. FLORIDA SKIP extends its congratulations.

DX IN FLORIDA

By C. Bolvin, W4LVV

Although the early spring months were discouraging, the return of the sun to our latitudes has brought with it some life to the DX bands.

This summer will probably be a "dying gasp" until the sun spot cycle starts its upturn in about three years.

With the trend toward 40 meter beams, the busy DXer may still find interesting activity on that band. SSB will certainly help. W4ITS, Art found his 100 watts of sideband on 40 did a fine job of raising HZ1AB this past month. No beam, just a dipole. Art is presently intrigued by the reportedly fine results from a "Z——Z" addition to a standard 20 meter Quad, with the Z resonant on 40. Over-simplified, it is a closed space, two full size elements, accordion style beam!

W4LVV is contemplating experiments with a "Quagi" for 20 and phased verticals for 40. W4-JSS contributed a somewhat unusual method for changing the phase in fixed quarter wave verticals. If it works (and he swears it did for him), it's the answer to a very inexpensive, bi-directional vertical beam, continuously rotatable from the operating position, with the elements remaining physically fixed. We may have to ring in our chief antenna experimenters W4AZK to check on some of these items. If Dave's present plans work out, we'll have to qrx until he returns from his dxpedition with Ed, W4QVJ, and K4YCW to Grand Cayman. This one is scheduled for the first two weeks in July.

W4DQS finally has his 75A4 back in the shack after a long wait for its reurn from HK-land. Dale says he hopes to have some good slides and movies of the Malpelo expedition available to show in the not too distant future. K4JLD, Bee, is just about ready to resume activity after a rest from dxing since February. Cal, W4ANE, is climbing rapidly up the phone DXCC ladder as he adds many USSR countries formerly missing from his list. Most of these are via the SSB mode.

W4CKB finds the recent rash of ZA activity to his liking, especially ZA1KFF, a club of YL operators. W4EEO drops a line suggesting some nice items to liven up the Fla. DX Club, including an Associate membership for those still working toward DXCC. W4GMR had a few wide open days on 15, with such items as VS9 returning to short CQ calls.

73 Chuck

Target DATE SPECIALS

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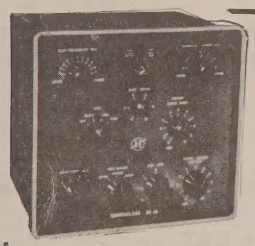

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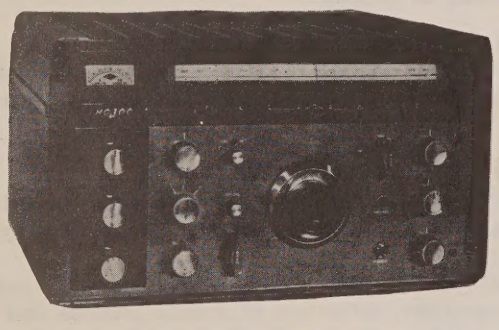

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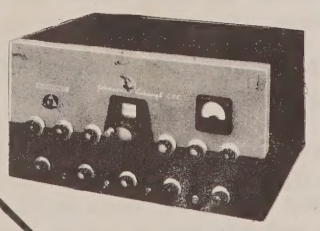

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HARS NEWS

By Ray Murphy, W4BNE

and Roy Scott, W4UHF

The highlight of the May 23rd meeting was a talk and discussion by Col. Edwin Lee White, W4AS, who has had vast experience with the ham, and was a member of the FCC dating back to 1930. He retired in 1955 and at present is a consulting engineer specializing on priority communication problems for the various government agencies. Col. White's topic was "The Past, Present, and Future of The Amateur Radio Operator." He briefly reviewed amateur radio from the days when electro-magnetic waves were first noted in laboratory experiments. This led to other experiments by amateurs who realized this could be a means of "wireless" communications, which led to our present day radio.

Col. White emphasized that while the amateur in the past has made great contributions in traffic handling and developing a reservoir of C.W. operators, that activity is dropping in importance. There is only a small group pioneering in the field of amateur science and electronics which was the initial basis of these frequencies been assigned to the amateur service. He then went on to say that in his opinion the radio amateur will have to earn and treasure the use of these frequencies assigned for this purpose; that unless the radio amateur contributes more to the scientific and electronic development of the art of communication, he felt that the frequencies presently assigned to the radio amateur service might be jeopordized by pressure from other services. Every radio service is growing and has to justify its existence.

SLOW SPEED CW NET PLANNED

The suggested Slow Speed CW net got enthusiastic support during a SEC meeting with the Fort Walton gang. It is far from definite yet, but tentative arrangements look like 3650 kc nightly at 0100 GMT beginning probably in early fall. Speed will be 13 to 15 wpm. Keep checking SKIP for details.

Dade Radio Club Happenings

Nelson E. Southard, K4GSD

The Dade Radio Club is engaged in a mammoth membership drive. Everyone in the club is out getting in new members. We are about to move into our new centrally located meeting place, and many social activities are coming up in the near future.

W4WYR-Evelyn finally put her yaking to good use and won the YL-OM contest for the four district.

K4MAV-Ed is the only one in Miami that has TVI in color. He just got a new color TV set.

K4ONY-Ted is the radio officer for Civil Defense District No. 1. He is looking for volunteers.

Bill Demby finally took his novice and should be on the air soon with a DX-4 and an HQ-12.

W4LVV-Chuck finally finished his novice class with much success.

K4ILC-Sam now has 3 harmonics to cope with. His wife had their third child.

K4SEE-Forrest and K4SED-Martha will be going to Indiana for their vacation this year.

W4EDP-Jim just put up a new tribander.

W4OBA-Jack is going on a two month sailing vacation.

W4MKE-Harry got a new P & H 8 w. Linear.

We finally got our plate Modulator working and it seems to be doing F.B. and don't expect any more trouble.

That's all she wrote so, 73 'til next month.

W4BKZ Honor GRAD

Jim Wolf, W4BKZ, West Palm Beach, was graduated head of his class from Booles Military School in Jacksonville.

Jim was valedictorian, received the school's highest award (distinguished service ribbon) and Bausch & Lomb science award. He was also a company commander, president of National Honor Society, and earned a number of merit bars.

Mr. Wolf plans to study electronics — probably at M. I. T. Good luck OM!

STATE OF FLORIDA AREC EMERGENCY PROCEDURES

(Attach This To AREC Plan)

The State AREC Emergency Communication Plan will be activated in phases, as follows:

CONDITION 1: STAND BY

All AREC Officials monitor the FEPN No. 1 frequencies and keep informed of situation through broadcast Radio-TV and official sources.

CONDITION 2: EMERGENCY WATCH

ECs for Pensacola, Tallahassee, Jacksonville, Orlando, Tampa and Miami establish watches on all four emergency net frequencies.

ECs advise key operating personnel of situation and arrange for relief operators, activation of special stations and other advance preparations.

ECs advise key agencies which they serve (such as Red Cross, Civil Defense, state and local governments) of AREC availability.

CONDITION 3: LIMITED EMERGENCY

Key Cities maintain 24-hour guard on all emergency net frequencies.

Phone Net No. 1 becomes directed, if it isn't already.

Other emergency nets go under direct supervision of their respective Net Managers. Their decisions will govern hours of net operation and whether or not to have the net directed.

All Key Cities maintain watch, regardless of the status of net activity.

All directed nets will strictly observe rules of procedure in the AREC Communication Plan, under sections on Net Procedure, Traffic and Emergency Frequencies.

Emergency Power is on premises and in working condition with 48 hours fuel on hand.

CONDITION 4: FULL EMERGENCY

All emergency nets are directed and running 24 hours per day. FCC will not be asked to clear any frequency unless Condition 4 prevails. Declaration of Condition 4 will not automatically request FCC to clear a channel.

Only an SEC or SCM shall request a clear channel from FCC. The SEC (Section Emergency Coordinator) may cancel Condition 4 and return to Condition 3 at any time.

CONDITION 5: AFTERMATH

Emergency crisis has passed.

Emergency Nets begin to restrict operations at discretion of their Net managers.

Condition 5 ends when all nets are QRT.

IN TROPICAL STORM SITUATIONS

State Plan is automatic.

Condition 1 goes into effect automatically whenever it appears from news reports that there is some threat to Florida, or when ordered by an SEC.

Condition 2 goes into effect automatically whenever any part of the state is included in Weather Bureau Storm Watch notices or when ordered by an SEC.

Condition 3 goes into effect automatically when any part of the state is included within Storm Warning notice by the Weather Bureau.

Condition 4 never goes into effect automatically. It goes into effect only when ordered by either SEC. Condition 4 may be cancelled and returned to Condition 3 at any time by the SEC. Condition 5 is never automatic. It goes into effect only when ordered by either SEC.

(Courtesy — Florida Skip)

HAMBAR

NOTE: Florida Skip does not assume any responsibility for condition, price, etc. of any item listed in this column.

This column is FREE to any Licensed Radio Amateur. There is no limit to the number of items an individual may list. All listings are cancelled each month. If your listing is not moved, it will be necessary to relist the following month.

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FOR SALE, or trade — 40 turn roto-tank coil with counter dial, rated 150 watt, meters; 0-500 MA, 0-15v DC, 0-8 RF Amp, 150 watt Modulation Transformer, Final Tank Condenser, 4-100 watt triodes and sockets, switches, coils, condensers enough to get on the air, less filament and power supply. The whole lot, $25 cash and carry. Filament and 1200 volt power supply, 866 rectifiers, 250w filament trans for above tubes, plus others, 500 mill swinging choke, non-discript 1500v filter condensers, 17 x 24 al panel, drilled for three meters, with lower vent grillbezel & screen, 17 x 17 x 24 brass transmitter frame with above PU components mounted in lower part. Includes over - load relay, bleeder resistor and 600 watt plate transformer. Yours cash and carry, $35. First $50 cash takes them both. Call any evening after six, W4JO-Miami. MI 4-0481.

WANTED: KWM-1 or KWM-2 with a.c. power supply. State serial number, condition and best cash price. Lowell E. White K9UQX (Ex W4-DBA), 1842 North 73rd Ct. Elmwood Park, Chicago, 35, Illinois.

DIAGRAMS: 1 or 1000, 25 cents each. Give model and number. R. V. Frederick, K4UGC, 460 N.W. 108 Terr Miami, Fla. PL 7-0977.

WANTED: Johnson KW matchbox. H. Sillman K4SCT, 1340 N.W. 190th St. Miami. NA 1-6844.

FOR SALE: Hammarlund HQ-100C receiver, perfect condition, not a scratch on it, less than 60 hours, and with matching speaker $140 with manual and original crate. Brand new Knight VFO $20.00 — not a printed circuit. Brand new! Globe DSB-100 wired and tested, used less than one hour. Won it at a hamfest $65.00. Jon E. Fimmel K4XVQ, 412 Durbar Ave., Melbourne, Fla.

FOR SALE: Viking Adventurer 50 watts A-1 condition modified for modulation which comes with it. Extra 807s $35. Globe Chief, 90 watts, needs repairs $15. 20 crystals 15 40 and 80 meters, wide chose at .50 cents each. WANTED: 6 meter communicator or separate 6 meter transmitter, converter to fit on SX101. Tandy Way KN4YSN, 4851 S.W. 82nd St., Miami 43, Fla. MO 1-3396.

WANTED: Schematic for Model MT-5A, 6 volt mobile transmitter. Will gladly buy or return schematic. John Miskin W4NEC, 15000 George Blvd., Clearwater, Fla.

FOR SALE: HQ-110, very fine condition, $140. W. M. Smith K4VCX, Box 442, Plant City, Fla.

FOR SALE: Westinghouse 3" meters: 0-150 v.a.c. $2.00. 0-300 ma.dc$2 0-4000 v.d.c. with shunt $4.00. Thordarson 600 ma. smoothing choke type 6410 $5. 2MFD at 3000 v.d.c. $4 each. 2 pole 110-220 v.ac. circuit breaker, heavy duty $2. ARC-4, 100 to 150 Mc., like new with all tubes $15. Have other chokes & power transformers. Commercial cabinet with rounded corners; 40" high, 19" deep, 16½ in. wide. Side back and top removeable. $5. Need the room for my new baby (ies)! Andy Clark W4IYT, 41 Lenape Dr., Miami Springs 66, Fla.

FOR SALE: Comple "Instructograph" code practice machine, complete with 10 tapes, key, booklet, earphones. Speeds from 3 to 30 WPM. $40. Mrs. C. Beasley, 19821 N.W. 39th Ct., Miami, Fla. NA 4-7575.

FOR SALE: Two APR-1 receiver, it covers 38 to 1000 mcs. Receives AM FM and video signals, Vedeo and PAN coax outputs. One good $99.50 one excellent with manuals $125. Pan-adapters may be available. Al Johnson W4LSA, 67 West 10th St. Hialeah, Fla. TU 7-2027.

WANTED: All certificate Hunters write Clif Evans K6BX, Box 385 Bonita, Calif. for details on the Directory of Certificates and the Hunters Club. Drop him a card for the latest on the certificate business.

WANTED: All Florida amateurs obtain and post your copy of the State AREC Communication Plan, free for asking. Editor, SKIP, Box 501, Miami Springs 66, Fla.

FOR SALE: One Globe scout model 680A transmitter $40. Al Goard W4-MBB, 9511 N.W. 3rd Ave., Miami 50, Fla. PL 7-5195.

FOR SALE: PMR6A mobile receiver and 12 volt power supply $65. 120 watt transistor power supply 600 volts at 200 ma. All above for $85. Triad plant transformer P17A, 1440-o-1440 v.a.c. at 300 ma. $14. Triad swinging choke C33A, 5-25 Henries at 300 ma. $5. Choke and above xfmr $16. Plate transformer, 2000 or 1800 v.d.c. at 400 ma. New winding, never used $30. Transformers above are small enough for table top linears. All items guaranteed. Above prices plus shipping charges. WANTED: National RD Choke RI54-U. Jess Price W4CLJ, 411 Gunby Ave., Orlando.

FOR SALE: National HRO-5-R with coils for all amateur bands, plus broadcast and 50 to 200kc power supply and manual. Clean and for 19 inch rack or table mount. A real buy $85. 12 inch speaker mounted on 19 inch panel $4.50. BC221AA frequency meter, clean with orig. calb book, a.c. power supply and earphones. $45. Two meter Gonset III, with cable, xtals, manual, antenna and hi Z mike, for fixed or mobile 6 or 12 volts. Just plug it in and talk $18. Well built 20 meter vertical-zepp with coax and all. Have worked over 120 countries with it $12. Andy Clark W4IYT, 41 Lenape Dr., Miami Springs 66, Fla. TU 8-3874.

WANTED: All Florida amateurs make your plans now to attend the Daytona Beach Hamfest on Labor Day Weekend September 2 and 3, 1961. DBARA.

WANTED: More HAMBARS. If you can't use it, seel it to someone who can. Free to all licensed amateurs. Florida Skip, Box 501, Miami Springs 66, Fla.

FOR SALE: Home-brew antenna scope with meter $10.00. Home-brew grid dip meter with coils. $15.00. NR1 Rad-TV service course with 17 inch pic tube and all components $75. FOB. Enclosed rack 20 inch deep and 29 inch high, highed top and rounded corners. $25.00 FOB. All FOB. William L. Patterson K4PXY, 2161 - 24rd Ave. North, St. Petersburg 13,

FOR SALE: Complete station: SX-99, DX 40, Heath Q multiplier, Heath VFO with homebrew voltage regulated power supply, a Mosley 4 band vertical with 90 feet of RG8/u coax cable, and a mini-box containing a Drake TVI low pass filter and Dow Key antenna with auxiliary contacts. All that is necessary for one knob transmit-receive switching. All equipment in perfect working order. Am asking $198.00. Robert Fusinato K4VPI, 116 Brendale Dr., Ormond Beach, Fla. Phone ORange 7-2282.

SWAP OR SELL: B & W Model 380B TR switch in excellent condition with schematic and instructions. Swap for 52 ohm low pass filter by Johnson or B & W. Will sell to first $16.00 money order. WANTED: Mobile 10 meter transmitter, xtal or VFO controlled, commercial or excellent home brew design. 6 volt input power supply for same xmtr 25 watt class. All comers answered. J. B. Hillard K4SKQ, P.O. Box 249, Pensacola, Fla

WANTED: DX-40 in good condition. Mary Lindsay WN4BGK, Box 1047, Stuart, Fla. AT 7-1550.

FOR SALE: 1000 v. 500 ma power supply. $12.00. New 4-65A's with sockets $6.00 each. 5894's - $5.00 each 4X150A - $5.00. $18. Eimac 4X-series Air System Sockets — $5.00 each. 4E27's new, 3 for $10.00. Also many misc. tubes, filament transformers, meters, etc. Let me know what you need and when you'll come by. Will mail tubes. Jim Kimbel W4FVA, 2401 Granfield Ave., Plant City, Fla.

WE BUY AND SELL TECH MANUALS FOR SURPLUS ELECTRONICS. PROPAGATION PRODUCTS CO., BOX 2513, NORFOLK, VA.

FOR SALE: Ameco Conelrad monitor $10.00. Turner Hi Z model 9D, new. $20.00 Heath VTVM VA-7 excellent condition $25.00. RCA 3 inch scope model 155A, fair condition $25.00 FOB. Gotham 40 meter vertical new $10.00 FOB. Dow TR switch $9.00. W. L. Patterson K4PXY, 2161 23rd Ave. N., St. Petersburg 13, Fla.

FOR SALE: Johnson Adventurer and modulator converted for 6 meter, 50 watts on general bands and Novice. 20 watts on 6 with appropriate crystals, or can use VFO if so desired, sacrifice $35.00. J. B. Desautels K4-VGD, 1212 NW 11th Ct., Ft. Lauderdale JA 3-5742.

FOR SALE: 'Tis a Heath VFO model VF-1 in excellent condition. Nary a scratch on it and was in good operating condition last time used. Would be overjoyed with $11.00 for it. W. E. Thrasher W4SAC, 14421 Biscayne Dr., Leisure City, Fla.

FOR SALE: BC-610E 160-10 meters. Extensive shielding and filtering. Spare tubes, coils and tuning units. 1 k.w. tuning unit plus car load of stuff for $300.00. HR050T1 and rest of station for $250.00 more. K4OSY, 1120 Egan Dr., Orlando CR 7-7107.

WANTED: All Florida Club members to ask at next meeting about the SPECIAL Florida Skip Club rate, or write: Skip, Box 501, Miami Springs 66, Fla.

FOR SALE: Viking Valiant $300.00, HQ-150 latest serial number, like new $180.00. Viking mobile, wired with tubes, never used. $60.00. All items look and operate like new. Will consider trade on Viking thunderbolt or Viking Courier. Walt Phillips W4YAQ, 718 East 10th St., Ocala, Fla.

FOR SALE: Elmac PMR-7 receiver with international Crystal 6 meter converter and S meter $125.00. Receiver along $100.00. Elmac AF-67 transmitter with 6 meters instead of 160. $105.00. Dual transistor power supply for 12 v. DC including all relays $50. PS 2V elmac 110 AC power supply $30. Write William H. Vogel, Jr., W4NFS, 1163 - 36th Ave. N.E. St. Petersburg 4, Fla

SUNCOAST VHF PICNIC

Hank Fahrlander, W4TGY

The second annual Suncoast VHF Picnic has been set for July 16, 1961. All VHF enthusiasts and their families are invited to attend. This picnic, sponsored by the Suncoast VHF Club, promises to be the best ever. Let's all get together and enjoy the fun.

As a special feature, dispensation has been granted from the "Grand Marshall" for the starting an all Florida chapter of "The Mystic Order of the Puevom," an exclusive organization for VHF minded amateurs. Life membership can be attained only at this gathering. Local members of the National Headquarters will be here to officiate at the initiation ceremony.

Time and Place: Phillipie Park, North of St. Petersburg, off of Highway 19, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Sunday, July 16, 1961.

Program: Short talks by well known VHF hams, and, the Puevom ceremony.

Drawings: Grand prize: Heath 6 meter transceiver. Other prizes and an auction. Bring anything you want to get rid of which might be of use to others.

Food: Bring your own in the form of a picnic lunch or whatever you like. Cold drinks and snacks will be sold on the grounds.

Registration: 50 cents per family. Registrants will be given a numbered ticket good for all drawings. Additional tickets may be purchased.

Picnic Transmitter: For the purpose of directing lost souls, a 6 meter station will be on the air from 9:00 a.m. till noon, at the picnic site. Transmitting frequency 50.7.

For additional information write: Hank Fahrlander, W4TGY, 5518 16th Ave. No., St. Petersburg 10, Fla.

WANTED: All Jacksonville area amateurs to tune for All Official Bulletins from ARRL. Time: each Monday at 8 p.m. Frequency: 29,000 kc: Station: Bill Allyn, W4HLE. For more info about OBS appointments, contact your SCM. See page 2 for QTH's.

WANTED: All Florida Clubs to submit your final Field Day Scores, plus a short write-up on where you were, how many xmtrs etc. Will get in next month if they arrive on time. Florida Skip, Box 501, Miami Springs 66, Fla.

FOR SALE: Seneca Heath xmtr $150. Used approximately 30 days. Tip-top condx. Fred Hoehn W4NUR, 12735 Ixora Road, Keystone Point, North Miami, PL 8-3488.

John Lowe . . . .

(QSY'd From Front Page)

i. campaign without special word for SKIP, the staff and the editor, "good old Andy." If SKIP were to close the door tomorrow. (and God forbid) if nothing else justified its inception and existence, the John Lowe Fund alone would. Certainly this venture could have ended only in disappointment without the invaluable assistance of SKIP. To Andy, a special thank you. It has been a privilege to work closely with you in the effort.

As for myself, in 29 years of "ham radio" there have been many rewarding experiences. There have been two standouts. I was fortunate enough to be in the right place at the right time to make my hobby perform a service "beyond the call of duty." To these two standouts, I now add the third, "The John Lowe Fund."

In behalf of the Lake Wales Amateur Radio Club and myself, I wish to again extend my deepest appreciation.

The FLORADORAS, Ft. Lauderdale, Fla.

Mr. A. Spaulding, W4DIR, 901 Flacon Ave., Miami Springs, Florida.

Homer D. Rice, Morningside Drive, Mount Dora, Fla.

K4OWI, 30 Minnehaha Circle, Maitland, Fla.

73, Wes Browne W4COZ

Yucatan . . . .

(QSY'd From Front Page)

W4DVR and W4ARV did the hon-John was in port for three extra days.

John used his Heath Mobile Twins on both phone and c.w. K4ZIF, Gus of Fort Myers, took a picture or two and we hope to have them with a follow up story next month.

The Fort Myers Radio Club had John as their guest during their June meeting. He spoke briefly about his forthcoming trip. K4ZIF, W4DKJ, W4SMK and others took good care of John while awaiting his departure time. At the same Club meeting was our E. Fla. SCM, K4SJH, keeping the boys on their toes by his talk on ARRL appointments, traffic, emergency and VHF nets. Reports have it — a good time was had by all! (See FMRC news by W4SMK next month for details.)

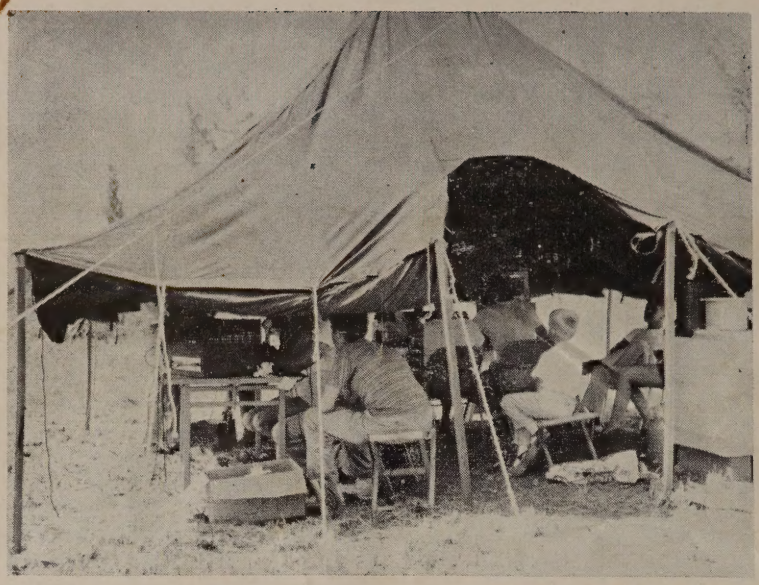
Here at deadline time we quote the following: "Ketch Vagabond departed Ft. Myers Florida for Alacran, Yucatan 1330 EST June 21 x will proceed down west coast keeping schedules per plan 7050 kc. 73 John W1QLT/MM."

On the following sked Ye Editor worked him for the following message: "Wx ovcst squall line passed us hour ago and wind shifting now to SW by WSW at 8 to 10MPH sea moderate QTH Yebel point waiting for sea to run smooth and wind to steady to eat chow. Will weigh anchor in another hr."

As John said "It's nice to know you have so many good amateurs behind me, since amateur radio will be our only means of communications from the reef."

Don't go away, we'll have a follow up story next month.

73 AC



With the sun red hot, FD signals pounding in, here was K4OSQ, Miami Springs Radio Club during a previous FD outing. Two transmitters went round the clock. A few operators under the tent are K4JWM, W4ZXL, W4ZXK, W4GOG, W4IYT, K4CEJ and (legs) W4GGQ. This year K4OSQ operated from two large trucks parked about 1000 feet apart. (Photo by K4FIS)

K4ODS SETS SPECTACULAR RECORD AT U OF FLORIDA

The Dunedin Times, May 25. Max Robinson (K4ODS) making spectacular record at University of Florida. — Max Robinson, 551 Lyndhurst St., freshman at the U. of Florida, Gainesville, has made all A's and B's in recent year - end tests and did not have to take a chemistry test because of an A average.

He received 97 in mechanical drawing and is second in his class.

These accomplishments are more spectacular in light of the fact that Max has been almost totally blind since birth and is the first blind student to enroll in an electrical engineering course at the school.

Dear Mabel . . . .

(QSY'd From Front Page)

man on the air about feeding the antenna. Well! I thought antenna was those funny looking wires he stuck up all over the place. (Good thing we don't have any close neighbors, this place sure looks like a space man's dream).

How he could feed anything like that kind of got next to me, so, when I got a chance, I merely asked if he used a spoon, or what. Gosh, Mabel, another Mercury went up and even went into orbit for three days. If I could only keep my mouth shut. But I do want to know about these things.

I sure hope I could get to know enough so I could get a ticket. I don't know where the ticket would be for but I bet I could show him a thing or two. Oh Gosh. Got my wash on the line and its raining. Bye now.

Love
Gladys

The above was written by a guest columnist who wishes to remain anonymous. We know we have a lot of clever readers — why don't some of the rest of you send us a column? Don't be bashful . . . you're among friends.

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FROM THE SEC's

PUBLIC SERVICE

Have you ever given much thought to your "Public Service" as a licensed Amateur? We like to think of public service aspects this way: Amateur radio is not a hobby which is used to do a good turn when the mood hits us. It is a public service organization using highly valuable frequencies which we are privileged to use most of the time for a hobby. Our FIRST obligation is to public service.

George Hart W1NJM, NEC, from ARRL said in Tallahassee he thought Florida was one of the best prepared states in the nation for a communication emergency. And he indicated in Miami that the ARRL might adopt the Florida AREC Emergency Communication Plan as a model, recommended by ARRL to all sections as a good basic system. George admitted he is skeptical. He wants to see it work before ARRL Officially goes overboard on it.

The plan will not work unless (1) we have amateur stations on the nets where they're needed and in the cities where they're needed and (2) unless you understand the plan thoroughly and how it works.

We beg of you, PLEASE keep your AREC Plan handy at all times. Keep it clipped to your log. Keep it on the wall, under glass, anyplace where you can see it. If you don't have a copy, or if you want extras for your net, club or friends, just drop SKIP Editor a line and they will be mailed out postpaid. We want every Florida amateur to have a copy of the Plan and Procedure regardless of the cost and effort involved. Let's join forces, sign up in the AREC with your EC today!

SHE NEEDS HELP

Miami Herald, May 21

Donna Herring, 20-month-old victim of a fire caused by gasoline lies terribly burned in Cloverleaf Hospital. Grandfather Andrew Sottilare in Jersey City keeps constant vigil thanks to John Foley-K2JXR, of Jersey City and Morris Stabin-K4DJW of Miami-ham radio operators. Other hams, listening in, are taking up collections for Donna.

The tiny lass needs help too. For father Don broke a leg in many places 18 months ago in a fall from a scaffold. A few weeks ago the leg was broken again in a hayride wreck. Donna needed 24-hour nursing for many days. She'll be in the hospital for a long time.